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***Characteristics of Food Stamp
Households: Fiscal Year 2004***



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Food Stamp Program (FSP) provides millions of Americans with the means to purchase food for a nutritious diet. The FSP is the largest of the 15 domestic food and nutrition assistance programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). This report presents the characteristics of food stamp households nationwide in fiscal year 2004 (October 2003 to September 2004). This information on household characteristics comes from FSP household data collected by FNS for quality control purposes.

FSP Participation and Costs

In an average month in fiscal year 2004, the FSP provided benefits to approximately 23.9 million people living in 10.3 million households across the United States. The total cost of the program over fiscal year 2004 was \$27.2 billion, \$24.7 billion of which was for food stamp benefits. The average monthly food stamp benefit in fiscal year 2004 was \$200 per household. The number of FSP participants increased by almost 40 percent between 2000 and 2004. Compared with fiscal year 2003, the number of FSP participants increased by 12 percent and FSP benefit costs increased by 15 percent.¹

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households and Participants

In fiscal year 2004, about half of all food stamp participants were children, 42 percent were nonelderly adults, and 8 percent were elderly people. About 66 percent of the children were school age, and 68 percent of nonelderly adult participants were women. Twenty-nine percent of food stamp households had earned income, 27 percent received Supplemental Security Income (SSI), 23 percent received Social Security income, and 16 percent received support from Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).

Approximately 88 percent of food stamp households lived in poverty, as measured by the federal poverty guidelines issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (see Appendix C). Food stamp benefits were concentrated among poorer households—39 percent of all food stamp households had a gross income less than or equal to half of the poverty guideline, and these households received 57 percent of all benefits. If the value of food stamps is included as income, 9 percent of all food stamp households moved above the poverty guideline as a result of receiving food stamps, and 16 percent moved from below to above half of the poverty guideline.

Of all food stamp households, 84 percent contained either a child or an elderly or a disabled nonelderly person, and these households received 89 percent of all benefits. Households with children received a relatively large average monthly food stamp benefit (\$280), reflecting their

¹ The figures cited in this paragraph are based on FNS administrative records. The participant counts of 23.5 million people and 10.1 million households and the average monthly household benefit of \$196 cited later in this report and other figures provided throughout the report are estimates from the Food Stamp Program Quality Control (FSPQC) sample. For an explanation of the difference in the counts see Appendix D.

larger household size. The average household with children had 3.3 people compared with an average of 2.3 people for all households. A majority (63 percent) of the food stamp households with children were single-adult households. Thirty-one percent of these single-adult households with children received cash benefits from TANF. About 44 percent of all food stamp households with children had earned income; 38 percent of single-adult households with children and 65 percent of married-head households with children had earnings. Six percent of all households with children had both TANF and earned income.

Households with an elderly member received a relatively small average monthly food stamp benefit (\$84), reflecting their relatively small average size (1.3 people) and higher incomes compared to other FSP participants. Seventy-eight percent of food stamp households with an elderly member consisted of an elderly person living alone. These individuals received an average monthly benefit of \$65 compared with an average monthly benefit of \$152 for households with elderly people not living alone and \$220 for households without any elderly.

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

The Food Stamp Program (FSP) is a central component of America's nutrition assistance safety net. The stated purpose of the FSP is "to permit low-income households to obtain a more nutritious diet by increasing their purchasing power" (The Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, P.L. 95-113). The FSP is the largest of the domestic food and nutrition assistance programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). According to FNS administrative records, during fiscal year 2004, the FSP served approximately 23.9 million people in an average month at a total cost of \$27.2 billion, \$24.7 billion of which was for food stamp benefits.¹

The FSP is the only low-income assistance program available nationwide to essentially all financially needy households because it imposes relatively few nonfinancial categorical criteria.² The FSP provides benefits electronically, and the benefits can be redeemed for food in approximately 152,500 authorized stores across the nation.

Federal, state, and local governments share the costs and administration of the FSP. Congress authorizes the program and appropriates necessary funds. The Department of Agriculture establishes program regulations under the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended. FNS administers the FSP nationally, while state and local welfare agencies operate the program locally. The federal government fully funds the benefits of the FSP. Administrative costs are shared by the cooperating agencies, with FNS usually paying 50 percent of the costs.

Since food stamps are available to most people who meet the income and resource standards set by Congress, the FSP serves a broad spectrum of the needy population. Using FSP household data collected periodically for quality control purposes, FNS sponsors several analyses to enhance its understanding of the people served by the FSP. The agency also produces a series of reports to document these analyses (see Appendix G for a list of titles). This report presents a picture of households and individuals participating in the FSP in fiscal year 2004.

Chapter 2 provides an overview of the FSP, including the regulations used to determine eligibility and benefits, and the factors that affect program participation and costs, such as trends in the national economy.

Chapter 3 describes the characteristics of individuals and households participating in the FSP in fiscal year 2004.

The appendices include detailed tabulations of household and participant characteristics for the nation and by state, and a brief description of the sample design and the sampling error associated with the estimates presented in the report.

¹ The total cost of the FSP in fiscal year 2004 also included \$2.6 billion in other costs, including the federal share of state administrative costs and employment and training programs, printing and processing, anti-fraud funding, and program evaluation.

² The FSP eligibility requirements include nonfinancial categorical criteria for certain groups. Specifically, some nonelderly nondisabled childless adults and some noncitizens were ineligible for food stamps in fiscal year 2004.

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CHAPTER 2: AN OVERVIEW OF THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

The characteristics of food stamp households and the level of FSP participation change over time in response to legislative changes to the FSP as well as economic and demographic trends. This chapter explains FSP eligibility requirements, application procedures, benefit computation, and food stamp issuance. The chapter concludes with a summary of program participation and costs, including a discussion of how these costs are related to the economy in fiscal year 2004.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, establishes uniform national eligibility standards for the FSP and defines the basic FSP unit as the “household.” The eligibility criteria include gross and net income limits, an asset limit, and various nonfinancial criteria. There are exceptions to these criteria for certain high-cost areas, such as Alaska and Hawaii, and for certain individuals such as elderly people (age 60 and over) and people with disabilities.

The Household

Under FSP rules, a household is defined as individuals who share a residential unit and purchase and prepare food together. The income and assets of each household member are aggregated to determine eligibility and benefits. Individuals who live together in a residential unit but do not purchase and prepare food together can apply as separate household units and their income and assets are considered separately in eligibility and benefit determinations. People who are elderly and disabled and cannot prepare and purchase food because of a substantial disability may apply as a separate household as long as the gross monthly income of the remainder of their residential unit is less than 165 percent of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services poverty guidelines.¹

Categorical Eligibility

Certain households are categorically eligible for the FSP and therefore not subject to income or asset limits. A household is categorically eligible if all of its members receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), cash or in-kind Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), or in some places, General Assistance (GA).² A broader interpretation of categorical eligibility rules implemented on November 21, 2000, requires states to confer categorical eligibility on families receiving or certified as eligible to receive benefits or services that are at least 50 percent funded by TANF or Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funds. States have the option of conferring categorical eligibility on families receiving or certified to receive benefits or services that are less than 50 percent funded by TANF/MOE. They may also confer categorical eligibility on

¹ Federal poverty guidelines for many assistance programs are established annually by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. See Appendix C for a listing of the fiscal year 2004 FSP poverty guidelines and a description of how they are determined.

² Benefits for these categorically eligible households are determined according to the same rules used for other eligible households.

households where one member receives the benefit or service, but the state determines that the whole household benefits. If the purpose of the program conferring categorical eligibility is to prevent out-of-wedlock pregnancies or to foster or strengthen marriage, the household's gross income must be under 200 percent of poverty. However, if the purpose of the program is to further work, this income limit does not apply.

Income Eligibility Standards

Monthly income is the most important determinant of household eligibility. The majority of households that apply for food stamps must meet two income eligibility standards: a gross income standard and a net income standard.³

As defined in the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, gross income includes most cash income (with the exception of specific types of income such as loans) and excludes most noncash income, or in-kind benefits. To be eligible for the FSP, a household that is not categorically eligible and does not contain an elderly or disabled member must have a monthly gross income that is at or below 130 percent of the poverty guideline (\$1,994 for a family of four in the contiguous United States in fiscal year 2004). Households with elderly or disabled members are not subject to the gross income standard. Net income is determined by subtracting deductions permitted under the FSP from monthly gross income. The FSP deducts the following from a household's gross monthly income to arrive at the net monthly income:⁴

- ***Standard Deduction.*** Households receive a standard deduction based on location and household size. A household with one to four members received \$134 in the contiguous United States in fiscal year 2004, with a larger standard for larger households. The standard deduction for outlying states and territories varies to reflect price differences between these areas and the contiguous United States (Appendix C). The standard deductions are adjusted annually for cost-of-living increases.
- ***Earned Income Deduction.*** Households with earnings receive a deduction equal to 20 percent of the combined earnings of household members.
- ***Dependent Care Deduction.*** Households with dependents receive a deduction for expenses involved in caring for children and other dependents while other household members work, seek employment, or go to school. The maximum dependent care deduction in fiscal year 2004 was \$200 per month per dependent under age 2 and \$175 per month per dependent age 2 or older.

³ Individuals participating in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or an SSI Combined Application Project (SSI-CAP) are subject to different eligibility and benefit determination rules. (See Acronyms and Definitions for more information.)

⁴ There is a distinction between a household's deduction entitlement and the amount actually used to compute food stamp benefits. The entitlement is the deduction that a household receives if the total of allowable deductions is less than the household's gross income. Because net income cannot be less than zero, households with total deductions greater than their gross income can only claim a portion of their deduction entitlement.

- **Medical Deduction.** A medical deduction is available only to households that contain elderly or disabled members. These households can deduct combined out-of-pocket medical costs exceeding \$35 that are incurred on behalf of elderly or disabled members of the household. Medical expenses reimbursed by insurance or government programs are not deductible.
- **Child Support Payment Deduction.** Households can deduct legally obligated child support payments made to or for a non-household member. States may choose to exclude child support payments from gross income rather than using the deduction.
- **Excess Shelter Expense Deduction.** A household is entitled to a deduction equal to shelter costs (such as rent, mortgage payments, utility bills, property taxes, and insurance) that exceed 50 percent of its countable income after all other potential deductions are subtracted from gross income. The limit on the excess shelter expense deduction in the contiguous United States for households without elderly or disabled members was \$378 in fiscal year 2004. This amount is indexed to inflation increases in subsequent years. Households that contain elderly or disabled members are entitled to subtract the full value of shelter costs that exceed 50 percent of their adjusted income. The limit on the excess shelter expense deduction for outlying states and territories varies to reflect price differences between these areas and the contiguous United States (Appendix C). Some states allow homeless households up to \$143 for shelter costs.

To be eligible for the FSP, a household must have a net monthly income at or below 100 percent of the poverty guideline (\$1,534 for a family of four in the contiguous United States in fiscal year 2004). The gross and net income eligibility standards vary by household size, as well as for residents of Alaska and Hawaii (see Appendix C).

Assets

The second most important determinant of FSP eligibility is a household's assets. Households are permitted up to \$2,000 in countable assets, or \$3,000 in countable assets if at least one member is age 60 or older or disabled.⁵ Countable assets include cash, assets that can easily be converted into cash (such as money in checking or savings accounts, savings certificates, stocks or bonds, or lump-sum payments), and some nonliquid resources such as certain vehicles.⁶ However, some types of property such as family homes, tools of a trade, or business property used to earn income are not counted.

Regulations implemented in January 2001 exclude from the asset test any vehicle with equity below \$1,500, and exempt from the equity test one vehicle per adult in the household as well as

⁵ Some states have implemented higher asset limits by matching the rules of other programs' eligibility rules, as allowed by recent legislation.

⁶ Vehicles used as a home, to produce income, to transport fuel or water, or to transport disabled people are exempt from the asset test.

any vehicles used by a teenager to drive to work or school.⁷ If there are no qualifying adults or teenagers in the household, one vehicle is still exempted from the equity test. For vehicles exempt from the equity test but not excluded entirely from the asset test, any fair market value exceeding \$4,650 is counted toward the asset limit. For any remaining vehicles, the higher of either any fair market value in excess of \$4,650 or any equity is counted.

In addition, the fiscal year 2001 Agricultural Appropriations Act (enacted in September 2000 and effective on July 1, 2001) allowed states to use TANF vehicle rules in place of food stamp rules if the TANF rules were more generous. By January 2004, 25 states had adopted policies that excluded the value of all vehicles from the asset test.⁸ Other states adopted policies that excluded the value of one vehicle per adult or per household or increased the allowable value of one or more vehicles. Only 3 states were still using the federal FSP rules.

These changes were designed to make it easier for low-income workers to keep a vehicle and still receive food stamps.

Nonfinancial Eligibility Standards

The FSP has some nonfinancial eligibility standards, such as restrictions on the participation of students, strikers, people who are institutionalized, unauthorized immigrants, nonimmigrant visitors to the United States, and some lawful permanent resident noncitizens. In addition, nondisabled nonelderly adults living in households without children are subject to work registration requirements and time limits on benefit receipt.

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA) severely limited eligibility for legal noncitizens. However, the 2002 Farm Security and Rural Investment Act restored food stamp benefits to certain groups of legal noncitizens who meet the program's requirements:

- Noncitizens who are receiving disability benefits, effective October 1, 2002
- Noncitizens who have lived legally in the United States for over 5 years, effective April 1, 2003
- Noncitizens under age 18 regardless of date of entry, effective October 1, 2003

Refugees, asylees, and deportees are also eligible for food stamp benefits.

Nondisabled nonelderly adults living in households without children can receive benefits only if they work or participate in work-related activities. With certain exceptions, those who do not meet these work requirements are restricted to 3 months of food stamp benefits in any 36-month

⁷ The equity test counts all equity--fair market value minus remaining liens--of the vehicle.

⁸ In six of these states, almost all low-income households are eligible for a TANF/MOE-funded benefit that confers categorical eligibility.

period.⁹ Participants age 18 to 49 are subject to this time limit unless they meet one of the following conditions:

- People who are disabled
- People who are mentally or physically unfit for employment
- Women who are pregnant
- People needed in the home to care for an ill or incapacitated person
- Relatives or other caretakers of dependent children
- Students meeting FSP eligibility requirements
- People who work at least 20 hours per week
- People who receive unemployment compensation
- People complying with work requirements under another program
- People participating in a drug or alcohol rehabilitation program
- People participating in a work experience program

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

To apply for food stamps, individuals are required to appear in person at their local food stamp office. However, elderly and disabled people and people who have transportation problems can be interviewed by telephone or at their home. All states must allow individuals to apply for food stamps when they apply for TANF or SSI benefits.

The Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, requires that local offices process applications for food stamps within 30 days after they are received. However, applications from households with extremely low income or resources can be processed more quickly through the expedited food stamp eligibility verification procedures, allowing people to receive food stamp benefits within 7 days after they apply. Those eligible for expedited service include (1) migrant or seasonal farm workers with assets equal to or less than \$100, (2) households with gross income equal to or less than \$150 and assets equal to or less than \$100, and (3) households whose shelter costs exceed their combined income and cash resources.

FSP participants are required to appear in person at their local food stamp offices periodically for recertification. The certification period varies according to the likelihood of a change in a food stamp household's financial circumstances. In fiscal year 2004, food stamp households were certified for food stamps for an average of 10 months.

BENEFIT COMPUTATION

After a household is certified for food stamps, its monthly food stamp benefit is computed on the basis of its net monthly income, the benefit reduction rate, and the maximum food stamp benefit for its household size and location. The maximum benefit to which a household is entitled is based on the June cost of the Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) for a family of four, adjusted for

⁹ These nondisabled nonelderly adults living in households without children may be exempt from the work requirements if they live in a waiver area (e.g., a high-unemployment area) or receive a state exemption.

household size and geographic areas outside the contiguous United States. The cost of the TFP is based on an economical and nutritious diet, adjusted for household size and composition. Maximum benefits are revised annually to reflect changes in the cost of the foods in the TFP. As specified in the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, the maximum benefit is 100 percent of the TFP.¹⁰ In fiscal year 2004, the maximum monthly benefit for a family of four in the contiguous United States was \$471 (Appendix C).

The benefit reduction rate is the rate at which benefits are reduced for every additional dollar of net income. The benefit reduction rate is 30 percent, reflecting the assumption that a household will spend 30 percent of its net income on food and that the FSP will provide the difference between that amount and the maximum benefit. Thus, benefits are reduced by 30 cents for every additional dollar of net income.

A household's monthly food stamp benefit is computed by subtracting 30 percent of its net income from the maximum benefit. If a household has zero net income, it receives the maximum food stamp benefit. All eligible one- and two-person households are guaranteed a minimum benefit of at least \$10 per month (except during the initial month of participation). For new participants, benefits are prorated for the first month.

FOOD STAMP ISSUANCE

By the end of fiscal year 2004, Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) systems had been implemented in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. There are two types of EBT systems:

- ***On-Line EBT.*** Participant receives a “debit” card, similar to a bank card, which is used to purchase food at authorized retail stores. The household's monthly benefit is electronically transferred to an account created specifically for FSP benefits. When a purchase is made, the amount of the purchase is debited from the account.
- ***Off-Line EBT.*** Two states (Ohio and Wyoming) issue “smart cards.” Unlike on-line EBT cards, these cards contain food stamp benefit information in a chip on the card.

PROGRAM CHANGES SINCE THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR

The 2002 Farm Security and Rural Investment Act restored eligibility to certain qualified noncitizens. The eligibility of qualified noncitizens who are receiving disability payments or who have lived in the United States for 5 years as a legal immigrant beginning on the date of entry was restored in fiscal year 2003. The eligibility of noncitizen children was restored October 1, 2003.

¹⁰ In 1993, the Act was amended to require that 1993 maximum benefit amounts in the contiguous United States remain constant at 1992 values despite a drop in the value of the TFP in June 1992. In 1995, legislation was adopted to freeze maximum benefit amounts for Alaska at their 1994 levels.

FSP PARTICIPATION AND COSTS

After declining slowly from 1983 through 1989, FSP participation grew substantially during the early 1990s. As illustrated in Figure 2.1, FSP participation increased by 37 percent from fiscal year 1990 through fiscal year 1994. Since peaking at 28.0 million people in March 1994, the number of FSP participants declined steadily through 2000 but began to rise in 2001, increasing by almost 40 percent between 2000 and 2004. There were 23.3 million participants at the beginning of fiscal year 2004, rising to 24.9 million by the end of the fiscal year.¹¹

The increase in FSP participation from fiscal year 2001 to fiscal year 2004 occurred during a period when unemployment increased from 5 percent to 6 percent and the percentage of the population in poverty rose from 11.7 percent to 12.7 percent. At the same time, eligibility for some noncitizens was restored; states took advantage of opportunities to expand categorical eligibility, relax vehicle rules, and implement simpler reporting requirements; and FNS was encouraging the states to conduct outreach efforts. In addition, the proportion of eligible people who chose to participate in the FSP increased from 2001 to 2003.¹²

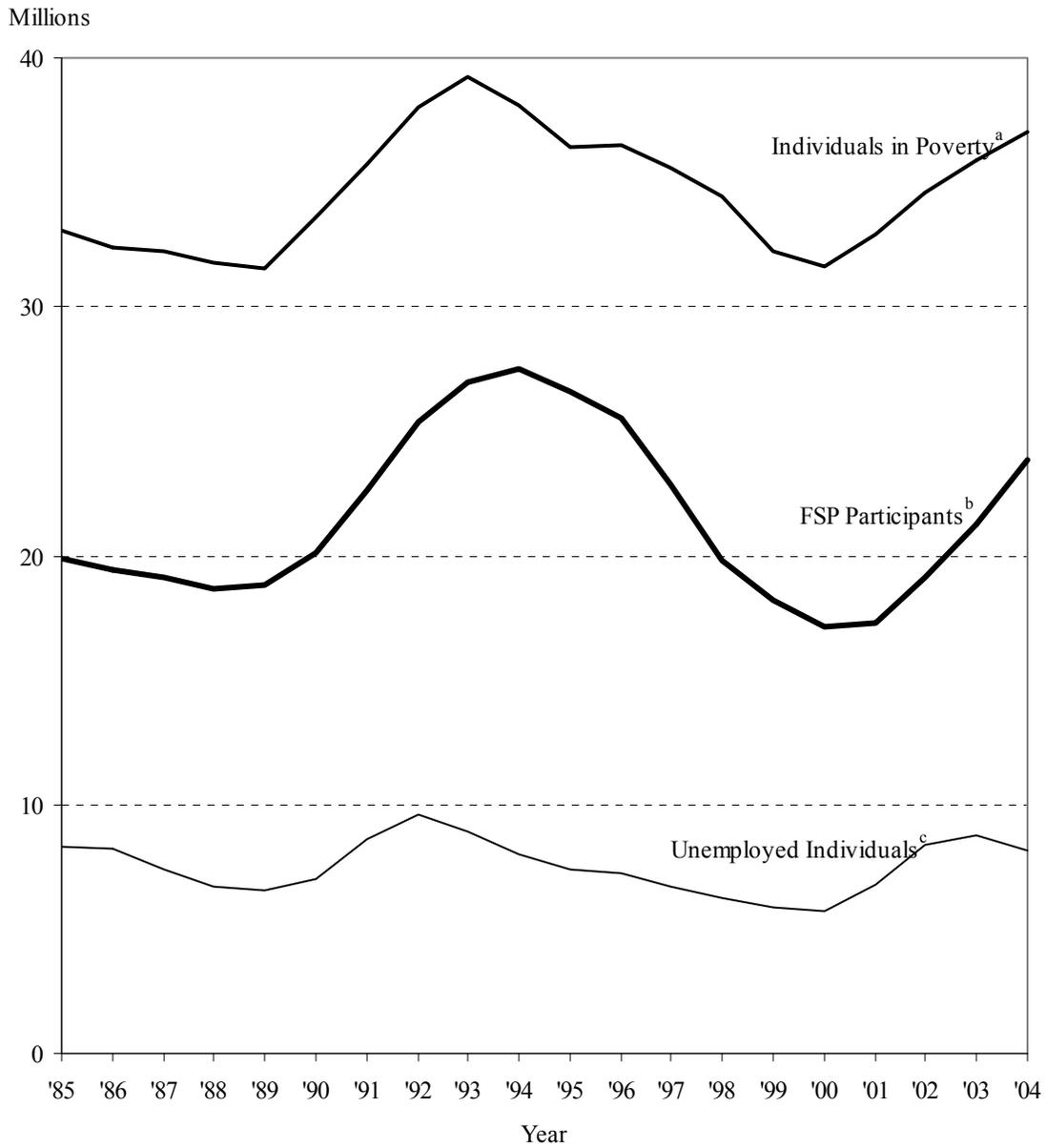
Total FSP costs increased from \$23.9 billion in fiscal year 2003 to \$27.2 billion in fiscal year 2004, largely because of the increase in the FSP caseload.

¹¹ FSP participation continued to rise early in fiscal year 2005, reaching 25.6 million in December 2004. Participation has remained high, exceeding 25 million, through April 2005.

¹² Cunnyingham, Karen. "Food Stamp Participation Rates: 2003." Alexandria, VA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, 2005.

FIGURE 2.1

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS, UNEMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS, AND INDIVIDUALS IN POVERTY, 1985-2004



^a Annual values. Source: Bureau of the Census, Poverty in the United States: 2004.

^b Average monthly values. Source: Food and Nutrition Service.

^c Average monthly values. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 2.1--Major Economic Indicators, Calendar Years 1992-2004

Economic Indicator	Calendar Year												
	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Real GDP Increase ^a	3.3	2.7	4.0	2.5	3.7	4.5	4.2	4.5	3.7	0.8	1.9	3.0	4.4
Productivity Increase ^b	4.2	0.3	1.1	0.2	2.9	1.9	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.5	4.3	4.5	4.0
Unemployment Rate ^c	7.5	6.9	6.1	5.6	5.4	4.9	4.5	4.2	4.0	4.7	5.8	6.0	5.5
Inflation Rate ^d	2.4	2.4	2.1	2.2	1.9	2.0	1.2	1.4	2.2	2.4	1.7	1.8	2.1
Interest Rate ^e	8.1	7.2	8.0	7.6	7.4	7.3	6.5	7.0	7.6	7.1	6.5	5.7	5.6
Individuals Below Poverty Line													
Number in Thousands	38,014	39,265	38,059	36,425	36,529	35,574	34,476	32,258	31,581	32,907	34,570	35,861	36,997
Percentage of Total Population	14.8	15.1	14.5	13.8	13.7	13.3	12.7	11.8	11.3	11.7	12.1	12.5	12.7

^a Percent change from preceding year.

^b Percent change from preceding year in output per hour, business sector.

^c Unemployment rate for all civilian workers.

^d Percentage change from preceding year in the implicit price deflator for Gross Domestic Product.

^e Corporate AAA bond yield.

Sources:

First line of data: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *National Income and Product Accounts*.

Second line of data: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. "Major Sector Productivity and Costs Index."

Third line of data: Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Fourth line of data: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, *National Income and Product Accounts*

Fifth line of data: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

Sixth and Seventh lines of data: U.S. Bureau of the Census, *Poverty in the United States*

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CHAPTER 3: CHARACTERISTICS OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS AND PARTICIPANTS

The FSP serves the nutritional needs of a broad spectrum of low-income Americans.¹ In an average month in fiscal year 2004, the FSP provided benefits to 23.5 million people living in 10.1 million households (Tables 3.5 and 3.3).² The vast majority of food stamp households lived in poverty (according to the federal poverty guidelines for program eligibility in fiscal year 2004). The vast majority of food stamp households contained a child (under age 18), an elderly person (over age 59), or a disabled nonelderly person. The average food stamp household received a monthly food stamp benefit of \$196, had a gross monthly income of \$643, had a net monthly income of \$321, and was entitled to a total deduction of \$381 per month (Tables 3.4 and 3.6).^{3,4} The average household size was 2.3 people. This chapter discusses the composition and economic status of food stamp households, the characteristics of food stamp participants, and the changes in the characteristics of food stamp households from fiscal year 2003 through fiscal year 2004.

THE POVERTY STATUS OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS⁵

The FSP provides benefits to households in need. In fiscal year 2004 the gross monthly income of 88 percent of food stamp households was less than or equal to 100 percent of the federal

¹ The information in this chapter and the estimates in Appendices A and B are based on a sample of 48,806 households that participated in the FSP in fiscal year 2004. The sample was drawn from food stamp households in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Households in Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands were not included in the sample because Puerto Rico has its own Nutritional Assistance Program, which replaced the FSP there in July 1982, and the Northern Mariana Islands participate in another block grant program instead of the FSP.

² The estimates of 23.5 million participants and 10.1 million households differ slightly from the numbers of food stamp participants and households according to FNS administrative records (23.9 million people and 10.3 million households) because the sample estimate is adjusted to account for receipt of benefits in error or for disaster assistance. (See Appendix D for more information.)

³ Because household net income is not used in their benefit determination, the average monthly net income estimate excludes households participating in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) and households participating in an SSI Combined Application Project (SSI-CAP) in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, or Texas.

⁴ The average total deduction estimate reflects the entire deduction to which households are entitled. Because households cannot deduct more than their gross income, this figure is greater than the average deduction actually received by households. Since deductions are not used in their benefit determination, SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this estimate.

⁵ For more information on the economic status of food stamp households, see Appendix Tables A-3 through A-8.

poverty guideline (Table 3.1).⁶ The gross monthly income of 62 percent of all food stamp households was less than or equal to 75 percent of the poverty guideline, and the income of 40 percent of all food stamp households was less than or equal to 50 percent of the guideline (Table A-4).

The FSP effectively targets benefits to the neediest households; poorer households receive larger food stamp benefits than do households with more income. The 39 percent of all food stamp households that had a gross monthly income less than or equal to 50 percent of the poverty guideline in fiscal year 2004 received 57 percent of all benefits. In contrast, the 12 percent of households with a gross monthly income over the poverty guideline received only 5 percent of all benefits (Table A-1).

The impact of food stamps on a household's purchasing power is estimated by adding the dollar value of the food stamps to household income and examining the distribution of households by poverty status.⁷ As shown in Table 3.2, the combination of cash and food stamps yields a significantly different distribution of food stamp households by poverty status. Specifically, when food stamps are included in gross income, the resulting increase in income of food stamp households was enough to move 9 percent of them above the poverty guideline. Food stamp benefits had an even greater impact on the poorest food stamp households, moving 16 percent of them above 50 percent of the poverty guideline.

HOUSEHOLDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS⁸

The FSP effectively serves many households that contain people with special needs—children, elderly, and disabled people. In fiscal year 2004, 84 percent of all food stamp households contained a child, an elderly person, or a disabled nonelderly person. These households received 89 percent of all food stamp benefits (Table A-14).

Households with Children

In fiscal year 2004, the FSP served approximately 5.5 million households with children each month, representing more than half (54 percent) of all households (Table 3.3). Households with children and earnings constituted 84 percent of all food stamp households with earnings. Six percent of all households with children received a combination of TANF and earnings (Table A-6). Compared with other food stamp households, those that contained children received a relatively high average food stamp benefit of \$280 per month (Table 3.4). This relatively high benefit primarily reflects the fact that the average household size among food stamp households with children (3.3 people) was larger than the average household size among all food stamp households (2.3 people).

⁶ See Appendix Table C-1 for the poverty guidelines.

⁷ This comparison assumes that program participants value their food stamp benefits at face value.

⁸ See Appendix Tables A-3, A-6, A-8, A-11, A-12, A-14, A-15, A-16, A-17, A-18, A-19, A-21, A-22, and A-23 for more details concerning these households.

Table 3.1-- Distribution of Households and Their Benefits by Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline, Fiscal Year 2004

Countable Gross Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline ^a	Percentage of:	
	All Households	All Benefits
Total	100.0	100.0
25% or less	23.1	31.8
26 - 50%	16.4	25.3
51 - 75%	22.1	22.4
76 - 100%	26.3	15.5
101 - 130%	10.5	4.7
131% or more	1.6	0.3

^a Defined as the fiscal year 2004 poverty guidelines published by the Department of Health and Human Services (see Appendix D).

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table 3.2--Effect of Food Stamp Benefits on the Poverty Status of Food Stamp Households, Fiscal Year 2004

Gross Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline ^a	Distribution of Households in Relation to Poverty Guideline		Difference in Percentage Points
	Based on Cash Only	Based on Cash and Food Stamps	
Total	100%	100%	0
50% or less.....	39.5	23.3	-16.2
51-100.....	48.4	56.0	7.6
101 or more.....	12.1	20.7	8.6

^a Defined as the fiscal year 2004 FSP net income screen (see Appendix C).

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table 3.3-- Household Composition and Selected Characteristics of Participating Households, Fiscal Year 2004

Households With:	All Households		Households With Countable:									
	Number (000)	Percent	Earned Income		Social Security		TANF		General Assistance		SSI	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total ^a	10,070	100.0	2,896	100.0	2,313	100.0	1,626	100.0	576	100.0	2,713	100.0
Children	5,472	54.3	2,422	83.6	517	22.4	1,584	97.4	165	28.7	732	27.0
Single-Adult Household ^b	3,450	34.3	1,303	45.0	319	13.8	1,060	65.2	112	19.5	465	17.1
Male Adult	177	1.8	56	1.9	32	1.4	56	3.5	4	0.8	26	0.9
Female Adult	3,272	32.5	1,246	43.0	287	12.4	1,004	61.7	108	18.7	439	16.2
Multiple-Adult Household	1,493	14.8	900	31.1	182	7.9	289	17.7	36	6.3	249	9.2
Married Head Household	1,004	10.0	650	22.5	116	5.0	164	10.1	14	2.4	140	5.2
Other Multiple-Adult Household	489	4.9	250	8.6	66	2.9	125	7.7	23	3.9	109	4.0
Children Only	530	5.3	218	7.5	16	0.7	235	14.5	16	2.8	18	0.7
Elderly Individuals	1,741	17.3	80	2.8	1,177	50.9	45	2.8	84	14.7	1,001	36.9
Living Alone	1,357	13.5	34	1.2	936	40.5	2	0.1	58	10.1	792	29.2
Not Living Alone	385	3.8	46	1.6	240	10.4	44	2.7	26	4.6	209	7.7
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^c	2,310	22.9	233	8.1	1,024	44.3	288	17.7	108	18.7	1,755	64.7
Living Alone	1,243	12.3	55	1.9	610	26.4	1	0.1	52	9.1	908	33.5
Not Living Alone	1,067	10.6	178	6.1	414	17.9	286	17.6	56	9.6	848	31.2
Other Households ^d	1,564	15.5	337	11.6	4	0.2	32	2.0	274	47.5	1	0.0
Single-Person Household	1,426	14.2	269	9.3	3	0.2	25	1.5	264	45.8	0	0.0
Multi-Person Household	138	1.4	69	2.4	1	0.0	8	0.5	10	1.7	0	0.0
Single-Person Households	4,228	42.0	439	15.2	1,555	67.2	116	7.1	379	65.8	1,701	62.7

^a The sum of individual categories does not match the table total because a household can have more than one of the characteristics.

^b Because gender is missing for some individuals in the FSPQC sample, the sum of single-adult households headed by males plus the number headed by females may not add up to the total number of single-adult households.

^c Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^d Households not containing children, elderly individuals, or disabled nonelderly individuals.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table 3.4-- Average Values of Selected Characteristics by Household Composition, Fiscal Year 2004

Households With:	Average Values			
	Gross Monthly Countable Income (Dollars)	Net Monthly Countable Income (Dollars) ^a	Monthly Food Stamp Benefit (Dollars)	Household Size (Persons)
Total	643	321	196	2.3
Children	766	403	280	3.3
Single-Adult Household	675	339	272	3.1
Male Adult	673	321	249	2.8
Female Adult	675	340	273	3.1
Multiple-Adult Household	1,069	625	327	4.4
Married Head Household	1,123	659	323	4.5
Other Multiple-Adult Household	958	554	334	4.3
Children Only	502	189	204	2.0
Elderly Individuals	682	352	84	1.3
Living Alone	619	290	65	1.0
Not Living Alone	903	540	152	2.5
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals^b	792	444	136	2.1
Living Alone	621	272	68	1.0
Not Living Alone	991	630	215	3.4
Other Households^c	191	53	139	1.1
Single-Person Household	165	41	131	1.0
Multi-Person Household	453	171	221	2.1
Single-Person Households	453	185	91	1.0

^a Because net income is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 households participating in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) and 272,701 households participating in an SSI Combined Application Project (SSI-CAP) in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, or Texas are excluded from this column.

^b Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^c Households not containing children, elderly individuals, or disabled individuals.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Children who received food stamps in fiscal year 2004 tended to live in households that were headed by a single adult, usually a female. Sixty-three percent of all food stamp households with children were headed by a single adult, representing 34 percent of all food stamp households (Table 3.3).

Thirty-one percent of these single-adult food stamp households received TANF, 38 percent had earnings, and 13 percent received SSI. Ten percent of all food stamp households contained a married head of household and children, representing 18 percent of all food stamp households with children. Of all married-head households with children, 65 percent had earned income and 16 percent received TANF (Table 3.3).

The characteristics of married-head households with children varied considerably from those of single-adult households with children. The average monthly food stamp benefit for single-adult households with children was lower than that of married-head households with children (\$272 versus \$323) due to the smaller size of single-adult households (Table 3.4). The per capita benefit was higher for people in single-adult households with children than for people in married-head households with children (\$88 versus \$72) in part because single-adult households were poorer. Single-adult households with children had a substantially lower gross monthly income than married-head households with children (\$675 versus \$1,123).

Among all households with children, 18 percent received child support, and 9 percent had no countable income (Table A-6).

Households with Elderly People

In fiscal year 2004, the FSP served an average of 1.7 million households containing elderly people (age 60 or older) each month, representing 17 percent of all households (Table 3.3). These households received an average food stamp benefit of \$84 per month and had an average household size of 1.3 people (Table 3.4).

Elderly people who received food stamps tended to live alone and thus received relatively small food stamp benefits. In fiscal year 2004, 78 percent of all food stamp households with elderly members were single-person households (Table 3.3). These households received an average food stamp benefit of \$65 per month compared with \$152 in benefits for households with elderly people not living alone and \$220 for households without elderly members (Tables 3.4 and A-2). The average size of households containing elderly people not living alone was 2.5 people.

A majority of food stamp households that contained elderly people received SSI or Social Security income. In fiscal year 2004, 57 percent of all food stamp households with elderly members received SSI and 68 percent received Social Security (Table 3.3). Thirty-two percent of households with elderly members received both SSI and Social Security income (Table A-6). Food stamp households with elderly members represented 37 percent of all food stamp households with SSI and 51 percent of food stamp households with Social Security income (Table 3.3).

Households with Disabled Nonelderly People

In fiscal year 2004, the FSP served an average of 2.3 million households containing disabled nonelderly people (Table 3.3).⁹ Households that contained disabled nonelderly people represented 23 percent of all food stamp households and received an average monthly food stamp benefit of \$136 (Table 3.4).

About 54 percent of food stamp households that contained disabled nonelderly people were single-person households (Table 3.3). Households containing a disabled nonelderly person living alone received a lower average monthly food stamp benefit than did households containing disabled nonelderly people not living alone (\$68 compared with \$215) (Table 3.4). Again, the difference in benefits between the two groups reflects differences in average household size. Disabled nonelderly people who did not live alone lived in households with an average of 3.4 individuals. Seventy-six percent of households containing disabled nonelderly people received SSI and 44 percent received Social Security income (Table 3.3).

Other Households Served by the FSP

The FSP serves needy households other than those that contain children, elderly people, or disabled people. In fiscal year 2004, 16 percent of all food stamp households consisted solely of one or more nonelderly, nondisabled adults (Table 3.3). These households tended to be single-person households (91 percent) and were the largest category (48 percent) of households that received General Assistance. However, 82 percent of these households did not receive General Assistance. These households had a very low average monthly gross income (\$191), with 50 percent having no gross income at all (Table A-16). Households consisting solely of one or more nonelderly, nondisabled adults received an average food stamp benefit of \$139 per month (Table 3.4).

Single-Person Households

Of all food stamp households in fiscal year 2004, 42 percent were individuals who lived alone (Table 3.3).¹⁰ These households received an average monthly food stamp benefit of \$91 (Table 3.4). A majority of these individuals (59 percent) were female, and 32 percent were elderly (Table A-14 and Table A-24). Compared with all food stamp households, a relatively small proportion of food stamp participants living alone had earned income (10 percent), and a relatively high proportion had zero gross income (19 percent) (Table 3.3 and Table A-4). By comparison, 42 percent of all multiple-person households had earned income, and 9 percent had zero gross income.

⁹ In this report, we identify households containing a disabled nonelderly person as households with either nonelderly SSI recipients, a medical expense deduction and no elderly individuals, or nonelderly adults who do not appear to be working and who are receiving Social Security, Veteran's benefits, or Worker's compensation.

¹⁰ These individuals apply for food stamps alone. Other people may be living in the household.

CHARACTERISTICS OF FSP PARTICIPANTS

The FSP serves a broad spectrum of individuals. In fiscal year 2004, 50 percent of FSP participants were children (younger than 18 years old), and they received 50 percent of pro-rated FSP benefits (Table 3.5). Two-thirds of the children served by the FSP were school age (age 5 to 17). Forty-two percent of participants were nonelderly adults (age 18 to 59), and 8 percent were elderly adults.

Sixty-eight percent of both nonelderly and elderly adults were female (Table A-23). Six percent of participants were citizen children living with noncitizens. Four percent of participants were noncitizens—1 percent were refugees and another 3 percent were other noncitizens. Three percent were naturalized citizens.

CHANGES IN THE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS

The overall economic conditions of the average food stamp household worsened from fiscal year 2003 to fiscal year 2004. While average gross income decreased in real dollars from \$640 in fiscal year 2003 to \$626 in fiscal year 2004, the average total deduction to which households are entitled increased by 8 percent in real dollars, resulting in a 10-percent decrease in real dollars in average net income (Table 3.6).¹¹ The percentage of households with zero net income increased from 26 percent in fiscal year 2003 to 29 percent in fiscal year 2004. The percentage of households with earnings remained relatively stable, as did the percentage of households with TANF income. About 29 percent of food stamp households had earnings in fiscal year 2004, compared to 28 percent in fiscal year 2003. Sixteen percent of food stamp households received TANF in fiscal year 2004, representing a decrease of only 1 percentage point from fiscal year 2003 (Table A-25).

In real dollars, the average food stamp benefit increased 2 percent, from \$185 in fiscal year 2003 to \$189 in fiscal year 2004, while the maximum benefit for a family of four in the continental United States decreased from \$465 to \$453 (Table 3-6).

¹¹ Some of the change in average total deductions and average net income may be attributable to two changes in the FSPQC database development process. First, we revised the way certain deductions are calculated to correct for inconsistencies and data entry errors. Second, we developed a process for identifying households participating in SSI Combined Application Projects (SSI-CAP). Since deductions and net income are not used in their benefit determination, SSI-CAP participants in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from the average total deduction and average net income calculations in the FY 2004 FSPQC database. In addition to SSI-CAP households, households participating in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) are excluded from the average net income calculation, because net income is not used in their benefit calculation and because they are not eligible for the same deductions as households participating in the federal FSP. In the 2003 Characteristics Report, MFIP and SSI-CAP households were included in all average calculations.

Table 3.5 -- Food Stamp Benefits of Participants by Selected Demographic Characteristics, Fiscal Year 2004

Participant Characteristic	Total Participants		Pro-rated Benefits ^a	
	Number (000)	Percent	Dollars (000)	Percent
Total	23,486	100.0	1,978,371	100.0
Citizenship				
U.S. Born Citizen	21,954	93.5	1,852,625	93.6
Naturalized Citizen	608	2.6	49,246	2.5
Refugee	216	0.9	17,144	0.9
Other Noncitizen	693	3.0	58,281	2.9
Unknown	15	0.1	1,075	0.1
Citizen Children Living with Noncitizens^b	1,507	6.4	131,428	6.6
Nonelderly, Nondisabled, Childless Adults	881	3.8	100,862	5.1
Age				
Children	11,797	50.2	995,697	50.3
Preschool Age Children	3,967	16.9	358,124	18.1
0-1	1,550	6.6	143,486	7.3
2-4	2,417	10.3	214,637	10.8
School Age Children	7,830	33.3	637,574	32.2
5-7	2,095	8.9	178,774	9.0
8-11	2,589	11.0	211,806	10.7
12-15	2,275	9.7	179,749	9.1
16-17	871	3.7	67,245	3.4
Nonelderly Adults (18-59)	9,765	41.6	861,313	43.5
Elderly Adults (60 or more)	1,919	8.2	121,088	6.1
Unknown Age	4	0.0	273	0.0

^a Pro-rated benefits equal the benefits paid to households multiplied by the ratio of participants with selected characteristic to total household size.

^b Noncitizens may be inside or outside the food stamp unit.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table 3.6--Nominal and Real Values of Selected Characteristics, Fiscal Year 2003 and Fiscal Year 2004

Selected Characteristics	Nominal Values			Real Values	
	Fiscal Year 2003	Fiscal Year 2004	Percentage Change	Fiscal Year 2004 (in 2003 dollars)	Percentage Change
Average Gross Income ^a					
Per Household	\$640	\$643	+0.5	\$626	-2.2
Per Person	336	335	-0.3	326	-3.0
Average Net Income ^a					
Per Household	348	321	-7.8	312	-10.3
Per Person	171	151	-11.7	147	-14.0
Average Total Deduction ^a	343	381	+11.1	371	+8.2
Average Household Benefit ^b	185	196	+5.9	189	+2.2
Maximum Coupon Benefit for a Family of Four in the Continental U.S. ^b	465	471	+1.3	453	-2.3
Consumer Price Index					
All Items	184.0	188.9	+2.7		
Food at Home	179.4	186.2	+3.8		

^a Real values are in constant fiscal year 2003 dollars. Fiscal year 2004 values were deflated by the change in the CPI-U for all items between fiscal year 2003 and fiscal year 2004 (2.7 percent).

^b Real values are in constant fiscal year 2003 dollars. Fiscal year 2004 values were deflated by the change in the CPI-U for food between fiscal year 2003 and fiscal year 2004 (3.8 percent).

Source of CPI-U average values: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Source of nominal values: Fiscal Year 2003 and Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control samples.

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ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

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ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

ACRONYMS

AFDC	-Aid to Families with Dependent Children
EBT	- Electronic Benefit Transfer
FNS	-U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service
FSP	-Food Stamp Program
FSPQC	-Food Stamp Program Quality Control
GA	-General Assistance
HHS	-U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
MFIP	-Minnesota Family Investment Program
MOE	-Maintenance of Effort
PRWORA	-Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996
SSI	-Supplemental Security Income
SSI-CAP	-SSI Combined Application Project
TANF	-Temporary Assistance to Needy Families
TFP	-Thrifty Food Plan
USDA	-U.S. Department of Agriculture

DEFINITIONS

Asylees. Noncitizens granted political asylum. In tables in this report, the term “refugee” includes refugees, asylees, and deportees.

Categorically Eligible Households. Households in which all members receive TANF, SSI, or general assistance. Includes households receiving benefits or services that are at least 50 percent funded by TANF or MOE funds. Some states also confer categorical eligibility based on benefits or services that are less than 50 percent funded by TANF/MOE and on households where one member receives a

benefit or service, but the state determines that the whole household benefits. If the purpose of the program conferring categorical eligibility is to prevent out-of-wedlock pregnancies or to foster or strengthen marriage, the household’s gross income must be under 200 percent of poverty. However, if the purpose of the program is to further work, this income limit does not apply.

Certification Period. Length of time a household is certified to receive FSP benefits. When the certification period expires, households must be recertified in order to continue receiving benefits.

Child Only Households. Households where all food stamp recipients are under age 18. The household may contain adults who are not food stamp recipients.

Children. Individuals under age 18.

Child Support Payment Deduction. Deduction for households with legally obligated child support payments made to or for a non-household member. States may choose to exclude child support payments from gross income rather than using the deduction. See also *Deductions*.

Countable Resources. Cash on hand and assets that can be converted easily to cash, such as money in checking or savings accounts, savings certificates, stocks or bonds, and lump sum payments. They also include some nonliquid assets, although the family home, certain family vehicles, and business tools or property are not counted. See also *Resource Limit*.

Deductions. Allowable deductions from a household’s gross monthly income to arrive at FSP net monthly income. The deductions shown in the tables are those to which households were entitled. (MFIP and SSI-CAP participants are subject to different rules.) Some of the deductions may not have been used, however, before a household reached zero net income status. Therefore, total deductions do

not equal the difference between gross and net income amounts. See also *Child Support Payment Deduction*, *Dependent Care Deduction*, *Earned Income Deduction*, *Excess Shelter Expense Deduction*, *Medical Deduction*, *Minnesota Family Investment Program*, *Standard Deduction*, and *Total Deduction*.

Dependent Care Deduction. Deduction received by food stamp households for expenses involved in caring for dependents while other members work, seek employment, or go to school. See Appendix C. See also *Deductions*.

Deportees. Noncitizens granted a stay of deportation. In tables in this report, the term “refugee” includes refugees, asylees, and deportees.

Earned Income Deduction. Deduction received by households with earnings, equal to 20 percent of the combined earnings of household members. (MFIP participants are entitled to a 38 percent earned income deduction.) See also *Deductions* and *Minnesota Family Investment Program*.

Earned Income. Includes wages, salaries, and self-employment income.

Elderly People. Adults age 60 or older.

Electronic Benefit Transfer. Means of benefit delivery via electronic “debit” card, similar to a bank card, which is used to purchase food at authorized retail stores.

Entrant Households. Households newly certified during fiscal year 2004 that have not been recertified.

Excess Shelter Expense Deduction. Deduction received by households with shelter costs, equal to those shelter costs that exceed 50 percent of the household's countable income after all other potential deductions are subtracted from gross income. There is a limit on the shelter deduction for households that do not contain elderly or disabled members. See Appendix C. See also *Deductions* and *Homeless Household Shelter Estimate*.

Expedited Service Households. Households which initially received expedited service for the certification period in effect.

Gross Income. Total monthly countable income of household in dollars, before applying deductions.

Gross Income Limit. FSP monthly gross income eligibility standards, determined by household size; equal to 130 percent of the HHS poverty guidelines. See Appendix C.

Homeless Household Shelter Estimate. Some states allow homeless households a set amount for shelter expenses.

Household. Individuals who live in a residential unit and purchase and prepare food together.

Households With Elderly People. Households with at least one member age 60 or older.

Households With Disabled Nonelderly People. Households with either nonelderly SSI recipients, a medical deduction and no elderly individuals, or nonelderly adults who do not appear to be working and who are receiving Social Security, Veteran's benefits, or Worker's compensation.

Households With Children. Households with at least one member age 17 or less.

Initial Certification Households. Includes both households certified for the first time within the current certification period and previously certified households that have not received benefits for at least 30 days.

Lawful Permanent Residents. Noncitizens lawfully admitted for permanent resident status.

Married-Head Households. Households containing a spouse of the household head.

Maximum Benefit. Based on 100 percent of the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in the preceding June for a reference family of four, rounded to the lowest dollar increment. Maximum benefit varies from the Continental

U.S. in Alaska, Hawaii, Guam and the Virgin Islands. See Appendix C.

Medical Deduction. Deduction available to households that contain elderly or disabled members, equal to all unreimbursed medical expenses incurred by the elderly or disabled person that exceed \$35. See page 4. See also *Deductions*.

Metropolitan Households. Households whose FSP application was processed at an agency in a Census Bureau–defined Metropolitan Statistical Area. A Metropolitan Statistical Area has at least one urbanized area with population of 50,000 or more and includes adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties.

Micropolitan Households. Households whose FSP application was processed at an agency in a Census Bureau–defined Micropolitan Statistical Area. A Micropolitan Statistical Area has at least one urban cluster of at least 10,000 but less than 50,000 population and includes adjacent territory that has a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties.

Minimum Benefit. \$10 for one- or two-person households.

Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP). Minnesota's cash assistance program. MFIP participants' FSP benefit is calculated at the same time as the cash assistance benefit by subtracting total income from an income threshold that is based on family size and is larger for families with earnings. If the difference between total income and the threshold is larger than the maximum benefit set by Minnesota, the family receives the full food portion of the benefit and possibly an additional cash benefit. Families with income closer to the income threshold may not receive a cash benefit and will receive a smaller food benefit as well. MFIP participants are credited with a 36 percent earnings deduction but receive no other deductions from their income.

Net Income. Total monthly countable income of household in dollars, after applying

deductions. Net income is not calculated for MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

Net Income Limit. FSP monthly net income eligibility standard, determined by household size, equal to 100 percent of the HHS poverty guidelines. See Appendix C.

Nonelderly Adults. Adults age 18 to 59.

Nonimmigrant Visitors to the United States. Noncitizens who have been admitted for a specified period, including tourists, students, and foreign nationals with work permits.

Nonparticipating Household Head Households. These households are headed by someone who is ineligible for the FSP, such as an ineligible noncitizen.

Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA). Legislation enacted in 1996 that made sweeping changes to the nation's public assistance programs. This act disqualified many legal permanent resident aliens and nonelderly nondisabled adults from the Food Stamp Program. In addition, the legislation changed cash welfare from an entitlement to temporary assistance designed to move parents to work. Since many cash welfare recipients also participate in the FSP, changes to the cash welfare program significantly affect FSP participants.

Poverty Guidelines. The poverty guidelines used by FNS are issued by the Department of Health and Human Services. Dividing these guidelines by 12 yields the monthly net income limits for the FSP. The Bureau of the Census establishes other poverty thresholds which are used primarily for statistical purposes. See Appendix C.

Preschool-Age Children. Children less than 5 years old.

Refugees. Noncitizens accorded refugee status. In tables in this report, the term "refugee" includes refugees, asylees, and deportees. See also *Asylees* and *Deportees*.

Resource Limit. For most households the resource limit was \$2,000 in fiscal year 2004. Households containing an elderly or disabled person were allowed up to \$3,000 of countable resources. See also *Countable Resources*.

Rural. A household is considered to be located in a rural area if the county in which its local food stamp agency is located is not in a Metropolitan Statistical Area or a Micropolitan Statistical Area.

School-Age Children. Children ages 5 to 17.

Shelter Deduction. See *Excess Shelter Expense Deduction*.

Single-Adult with Children Households. Households with exactly one person age 18 or older, no spouse, and at least one person under age 18.

Single-Person Households. Households containing exactly one person.

SSI-Combined Application Project (SSI-CAP). Joint FNS-SSA partnerships with a goal of streamlining the procedures for providing food stamp benefits to certain households that are eligible for both food stamps and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). In FY 2004, five states had SSI-CAP demonstrations: Mississippi, New York, Texas, South Carolina, and Washington. The demonstrations in Mississippi, New York, Texas, and South Carolina have standardized benefit amounts. All five states have standardized shelter expenses.

Standard Deduction. Deduction received by all households which varies by area and household size to reflect price differences among areas. See Appendix C. See also *Deductions*.

Student. Participant age 18 or older enrolled at least half time in a recognized school, training program, or institution of higher education.

Thrifty Food Plan (TFP). Market basket of goods based on an economical and nutritious diet, adjusted for household size and composition. Used to determine maximum food stamp benefit amounts.

Total Deduction. Includes child support payment, dependent-care, earned income, excess shelter expense, medical, and standard deductions to which the FSP household is entitled. In some cases this exceeds the amount deducted from gross income because net income cannot be less than zero. See also *Deductions*.

Unearned Income. Includes TANF, General Assistance, SSI, Social Security, unemployment benefits, Veterans' benefits, Workers' Compensation, other government benefits, contributions, deemed income, educational loans, child support, wage supplementation, energy assistance, state diversion payments, and other unearned income.

Work Registration. Many nonelderly nondisabled FSP participants are required to register for work with their welfare office or state unemployment agency and must agree to accept any suitable job that is offered to them. Individuals who are exempt from FSP work registration rules include the following:

- All individuals under age 16 or over age 60, and some individuals age 16 and 17
- Individuals responsible for the care of a dependent child under age 6 or the care of an incapacitated person
- Individuals who are physically or mentally unfit for work
- Individuals complying with work requirements of other assistance programs
- Students enrolled at least half time in a school, training program, or institution of higher education
- Regular participants in a drug addiction or alcoholic treatment program
- Individuals working 30 hours a week or earning more than an amount equal to 30 hours times the minimum wage.

APPENDIX A

DETAILED TABLES OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

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Table A-1. Distribution of Participating Households, Individuals, and Benefits by Household Composition, Locality, Countable Income Source, and Food Stamp Benefit Amount

Household Characteristic	Food Stamp Households		Participants in Households With Household Characteristic		Monthly Food Stamp Benefits	
	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Dollars (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	23,486	100.0	1,978,371	100.0
Household Composition						
Children	5,472	54.3	18,260	77.7	1,532,401	77.5
School Age	4,134	41.1	14,895	63.4	1,210,993	61.2
Preschool Age	2,901	28.8	10,131	43.1	876,196	44.3
No Children	4,598	45.7	5,226	22.3	445,971	22.5
Elderly Individuals	1,741	17.3	2,307	9.8	146,497	7.4
No Elderly Individuals	8,329	82.7	21,179	90.2	1,831,875	92.6
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a	2,310	22.9	4,840	20.6	314,216	15.9
No Disabled Nonelderly Individuals	7,761	77.1	18,646	79.4	1,664,156	84.1
Nonelderly, Nondisabled, Childless Adults ^b	804	8.0	1,397	5.9	143,334	7.2
No Nonelderly, Nondisabled, Childless Adults	9,266	92.0	22,088	94.1	1,835,037	92.8
Noncitizens	625	6.2	1,732	7.4	137,236	6.9
No Noncitizens	9,446	93.8	21,753	92.6	1,841,135	93.1
Locality						
Metropolitan	7,770	77.2	18,076	77.0	1,545,657	78.1
Micropolitan ^c	1,273	12.6	3,028	12.9	242,439	12.3
Rural	995	9.9	2,349	10.0	187,276	9.5
Countable Income Source						
Gross Income	8,762	87.0	21,156	90.1	1,678,496	84.8
No Gross Income	1,308	13.0	2,329	9.9	299,875	15.2
Net Income	6,804	67.6	17,242	73.4	1,199,087	60.6
No Net Income	2,956	29.4	5,864	25.0	744,927	37.7
Not Applicable ^d	310	3.1	379	1.6	34,357	1.7
Earned Income	2,896	28.8	9,249	39.4	665,817	33.7
No Earned Income	7,174	71.2	14,236	60.6	1,312,555	66.3
Unearned Income	7,027	69.8	15,843	67.5	1,262,462	63.8
No Unearned Income	3,043	30.2	7,642	32.5	715,909	36.2
TANF Income	1,626	16.1	5,055	21.5	443,705	22.4
No TANF Income	8,444	83.9	18,430	78.5	1,534,667	77.6
GA Income	576	5.7	1,004	4.3	94,290	4.8
No GA Income	9,494	94.3	22,482	95.7	1,884,082	95.2
SSI	2,713	26.9	4,953	21.1	327,303	16.5
No SSI	7,358	73.1	18,533	78.9	1,651,068	83.5
Social Security Income	2,313	23.0	3,897	16.6	235,316	11.9
No Social Security Income	7,757	77.0	19,589	83.4	1,743,055	88.1
Gross Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline						
No income	1,308	13.0	2,329	9.9	299,875	15.2
>0-50%	2,669	26.5	7,497	31.9	830,384	42.0
51-100	4,874	48.4	10,706	45.6	749,405	37.9
101+	1,219	12.1	2,954	12.6	98,708	5.0
Food Stamp Benefit						
Minimum Benefit	611	6.1	723	3.1	6,109	0.3
Maximum Benefit	3,086	30.6	5,998	25.5	763,680	38.6

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^b These participants, age 18-49, are subject to work registration and, with some exceptions (for example, those in waiver areas or receiving state exemptions), must meet work requirements or face time limits on benefit receipt.

^c A micropolitan area has at least one urban cluster of between 10,000 and 50,000 people and includes adjacent territory with a high degree of social and economic integration with the core as measured by commuting ties.

^d Net income is not used in the benefit determination of MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-2. Average Gross and Net Countable Income, Total Deduction, Countable Resources, Food Stamp Benefit, Household Size, and Certification Period of Participating Households by Household Composition, Locality, Countable Income Source, and Food Stamp Benefit Amount

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Average Values						
	Number (000)	Percent	Gross Countable Income (Dollars)	Net Countable Income (Dollars) ^a	Total Deduction (Dollars) ^b	Countable Resources (Dollars)	Food Stamp Benefit (Dollars)	Household Size (Individuals)	Certification Period (Months)
Total	10,070	100.0	643	321	381	143	196	2.3	10.5
Household Composition									
Children	5,472	54.3	766	403	417	119	280	3.3	8.5
School Age	4,134	41.1	827	451	425	119	293	3.6	8.6
Preschool Age	2,901	28.8	745	382	421	117	302	3.5	8.3
No Children	4,598	45.7	496	219	336	171	97	1.1	12.8
Elderly Individuals	1,741	17.3	682	352	360	293	84	1.3	15.8
No Elderly Individuals	8,329	82.7	634	316	385	111	220	2.5	9.3
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^c	2,310	22.9	792	444	369	150	136	2.1	12.6
No Disabled Nonelderly Individuals	7,761	77.1	598	285	384	141	214	2.4	9.8
Nonelderly, Nondisabled, Childless Adults ^d	804	8.0	342	152	312	67	178	1.7	8.0
No Nonelderly, Nondisabled, Childless Adults	9,266	92.0	669	337	387	149	198	2.4	10.7
Noncitizens	625	6.2	786	408	436	177	220	2.8	11.4
No Noncitizens	9,446	93.8	633	316	377	141	195	2.3	10.4
Locality									
Metropolitan	7,770	77.2	637	310	388	141	199	2.3	10.4
Microopolitan	1,273	12.6	672	360	369	139	190	2.4	10.3
Rural	995	9.9	648	369	341	166	188	2.4	10.8
Countable Income Source									
Gross Income	8,762	87.0	738	371	401	157	192	2.4	10.9
No Gross Income	1,308	13.0	0	0	253	50	229	1.8	7.3
Net Income	6,804	67.6	844	461	383	177	176	2.5	10.6
No Net Income	2,956	29.4	183	0	381	71	252	2.0	8.2
Not Applicable ^e	310	3.1	611	-	59	83	111	1.2	29.4
Earned Income	2,896	28.8	1,011	519	517	166	230	3.2	8.2
No Earned Income	7,174	71.2	494	238	324	133	183	2.0	11.4
Unearned Income	7,027	69.8	689	355	365	162	180	2.3	11.7
No Unearned Income	3,043	30.2	535	248	417	98	235	2.5	7.6
TANF Income	1,626	16.1	664	349	340	58	273	3.1	9.4
No TANF Income	8,444	83.9	638	316	389	159	182	2.2	10.6
GA Income	576	5.7	484	209	323	54	164	1.7	10.8
No GA Income	9,494	94.3	652	328	385	148	198	2.4	10.4
SSI	2,713	26.9	727	402	345	174	121	1.8	14.8
No SSI	7,358	73.1	611	294	393	131	224	2.5	8.9
Social Security Income	2,313	23.0	764	419	368	252	102	1.7	13.6
No Social Security Income	7,757	77.0	606	293	385	110	225	2.5	9.5
Food Stamp Benefit									
Minimum Benefit	611	6.1	873	643	230	343	10	1.2	12.9
Maximum Benefit	3,086	30.6	202	0	381	72	247	1.9	9.2

^a Because net income is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this column. Thus, the average values are based on fewer households than the number shown in the Total Households column.

^b Because deductions are not used in their benefit determination, 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this column. Thus, the average values are based on fewer households than the number shown in the Total Households column.

^c Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^d These participants, age 18-49, are subject to work registration and, with some exceptions (for example, those in waiver areas or receiving state exemptions), must meet work requirements or face time limits on benefit receipt.

^e Net income is not used in the benefit determination of MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

- Not Applicable.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-3. Distribution of Participating Households With Children, Elderly Individuals, and Disabled Nonelderly Individuals by Amount of Gross and Net Countable Income, Countable Resources, and Gross and Net Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Households With:					
	Number (000)	Percent	Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	5,472	100.0	1,741	100.0	2,310	100.0
Gross Countable Income								
\$0	1,308	13.0	495	9.0	33	1.9	2	0.1
1-199	565	5.6	312	5.7	15	0.8	6	0.3
200-399	1,164	11.6	792	14.5	64	3.7	50	2.2
400-599	2,364	23.5	815	14.9	682	39.1	910	39.4
600-799	1,718	17.1	732	13.4	531	30.5	545	23.6
800-999	1,045	10.4	622	11.4	261	15.0	325	14.1
1,000+	1,906	18.9	1,703	31.1	156	9.0	470	20.4
Net Countable Income								
\$0	2,956	29.4	1,473	26.9	174	10.0	186	8.0
1-199	1,717	17.1	886	16.2	299	17.2	395	17.1
200-399	1,856	18.4	803	14.7	489	28.1	644	27.9
400-599	1,365	13.6	729	13.3	355	20.4	426	18.5
600-799	790	7.8	563	10.3	157	9.0	227	9.8
800-999	479	4.8	409	7.5	59	3.4	136	5.9
1,000+	597	5.9	573	10.5	30	1.7	202	8.8
Not Applicable ^b	310	3.1	36	0.7	180	10.3	94	4.1
Countable Resources								
\$0	6,967	69.2	3,858	70.5	928	53.3	1,507	65.2
1-500	2,222	22.1	1,228	22.4	492	28.3	566	24.5
501-1,000	498	4.9	219	4.0	179	10.3	140	6.1
1,001-1,500	199	2.0	87	1.6	73	4.2	50	2.2
1,501-1,750	60	0.6	29	0.5	23	1.3	12	0.5
1,751-2,000	54	0.5	28	0.5	15	0.9	12	0.5
2,001-3,000	48	0.5	10	0.2	26	1.5	15	0.7
3,001+	24	0.2	14	0.3	5	0.3	6	0.3
Gross Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline								
No Gross Income	1,308	13.0	495	9.0	33	1.9	2	0.1
>0-25%	1,013	10.1	763	13.9	20	1.2	15	0.6
26-50	1,656	16.4	1,280	23.4	77	4.5	197	8.5
51-75	2,230	22.1	1,304	23.8	360	20.7	838	36.3
76-100	2,644	26.3	941	17.2	965	55.4	944	40.8
101-125	971	9.6	579	10.6	215	12.4	248	10.7
126-130	90	0.9	49	0.9	23	1.3	18	0.8
131-150	97	1.0	33	0.6	34	2.0	31	1.3
151+	61	0.6	27	0.5	13	0.7	18	0.8
Net Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline								
No Net Income	2,956	29.4	1,473	26.9	174	10.0	186	8.0
>0-25%	2,284	22.7	1,459	26.7	305	17.5	485	21.0
26-50	2,292	22.8	1,251	22.9	502	28.8	764	33.1
51-75	1,587	15.8	871	15.9	412	23.6	558	24.1
76-100	582	5.8	355	6.5	155	8.9	200	8.7
101-125	38	0.4	15	0.3	12	0.7	18	0.8
126-130	4	0.0	3	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
131-150	9	0.1	3	0.1	1	0.1	5	0.2
151+	9	0.1	6	0.1	1	0.0	1	0.1
Not Applicable ^b	310	3.1	36	0.7	180	10.3	94	4.1

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^b Net income is not used in the benefit determination of MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-4. Distribution of Participating Households by Household Size and Amount of Countable Gross and Net Income, Resources, and Gross and Net Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Household Size											
	Number (000)	Percent	1		2		3		4		5		6+	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	4,228	100.0	2,069	100.0	1,648	100.0	1,126	100.0	583	100.0	416	100.0
Gross Countable Income														
\$0	1,308	13.0	788	18.6	229	11.0	160	9.7	81	7.2	32	5.5	18	4.3
1-199	565	5.6	265	6.3	141	6.8	90	5.4	45	4.0	16	2.7	8	2.0
200-399	1,164	11.6	442	10.4	321	15.5	229	13.9	111	9.9	42	7.2	18	4.2
400-599	2,364	23.5	1,484	35.1	405	19.6	235	14.2	149	13.2	63	10.9	28	6.7
600-799	1,718	17.1	928	22.0	300	14.5	249	15.1	138	12.3	60	10.3	43	10.3
800-999	1,045	10.4	251	5.9	345	16.7	216	13.1	135	12.0	58	10.0	39	9.4
1,000+	1,906	18.9	71	1.7	328	15.8	468	28.4	466	41.4	311	53.3	263	63.2
Net Countable Income														
\$0	2,956	29.4	1,478	35.0	652	31.5	440	26.7	240	21.3	96	16.4	51	12.1
1-199	1,717	17.1	815	19.3	398	19.2	267	16.2	147	13.0	61	10.5	30	7.1
200-399	1,856	18.4	971	23.0	356	17.2	271	16.4	151	13.4	67	11.4	41	9.8
400-599	1,365	13.6	542	12.8	300	14.5	245	14.9	153	13.6	73	12.6	51	12.3
600-799	790	7.8	124	2.9	220	10.6	189	11.5	147	13.1	67	11.5	43	10.2
800-999	479	4.8	13	0.3	94	4.5	144	8.7	119	10.6	64	11.1	44	10.7
1,000+	597	5.9	7	0.2	36	1.8	82	5.0	166	14.7	151	25.9	155	37.2
Not Applicable ^a	310	3.1	279	6.6	13	0.6	10	0.6	3	0.3	4	0.6	2	0.5
Countable Resources														
\$0	6,967	69.2	2,953	69.8	1,454	70.3	1,158	70.3	760	67.5	370	63.5	271	65.1
1-500	2,222	22.1	853	20.2	455	22.0	377	22.9	278	24.7	155	26.5	104	24.9
501-1,000	498	4.9	244	5.8	85	4.1	67	4.1	51	4.6	30	5.2	21	4.9
1,001-1,500	199	2.0	88	2.1	43	2.1	25	1.5	19	1.7	15	2.5	10	2.3
1,501-1,750	60	0.6	27	0.6	12	0.6	8	0.5	4	0.4	6	1.0	3	0.8
1,751-2,000	54	0.5	22	0.5	9	0.4	6	0.4	8	0.7	3	0.6	5	1.2
2,001-3,000	48	0.5	31	0.7	9	0.4	4	0.2	2	0.2	2	0.3	1	0.1
3,001 +	24	0.2	10	0.2	3	0.1	3	0.2	4	0.3	2	0.3	3	0.6
Gross Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline														
No Gross Income	1,308	13.0	788	18.6	229	11.0	160	9.7	81	7.2	32	5.5	18	4.3
>0-25%	1,013	10.1	253	6.0	251	12.1	237	14.4	153	13.6	73	12.5	47	11.3
26-50	1,656	16.4	414	9.8	357	17.3	361	21.9	272	24.2	139	23.9	112	27.0
51-75	2,230	22.1	831	19.6	505	24.4	382	23.2	262	23.3	139	23.8	112	26.9
76-100	2,644	26.3	1,518	35.9	416	20.1	286	17.3	215	19.1	129	22.1	80	19.2
101-125	971	9.6	305	7.2	242	11.7	189	11.5	129	11.4	63	10.8	42	10.1
126-130	90	0.9	36	0.9	18	0.9	21	1.2	8	0.7	4	0.8	3	0.8
131-150	97	1.0	53	1.3	26	1.2	9	0.6	5	0.5	2	0.3	2	0.4
151+	61	0.6	30	0.7	26	1.2	3	0.2	0	0.0	2	0.3	1	0.2
Net Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline														
No Net Income	2,956	29.4	1,478	35.0	652	31.5	440	26.7	240	21.3	96	16.4	51	12.1
>0-25%	2,284	22.7	773	18.3	510	24.7	445	27.0	292	26.0	151	25.9	113	27.3
26-50	2,292	22.8	925	21.9	426	20.6	378	22.9	291	25.9	153	26.3	118	28.3
51-75	1,587	15.8	588	13.9	311	15.0	270	16.4	206	18.3	120	20.6	91	21.9
76-100	582	5.8	160	3.8	125	6.1	105	6.4	94	8.4	58	10.0	39	9.4
101-125	38	0.4	16	0.4	19	0.9	-	-	0	0.0	1	0.2	2	0.4
126-130	4	0.0	1	0.0	3	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
131-150	9	0.1	3	0.1	5	0.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
151+	9	0.1	4	0.1	5	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Not Applicable ^a	310	3.1	279	6.6	13	0.6	10	0.6	3	0.3	4	0.6	2	0.5

^a Net income is not used in the benefit determination of MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

- No sample households in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-5. Average Gross and Net Countable Income, Average Gross and Net Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline, Average Countable Resources, and Average Benefit of Participating Households by Household Composition and Size

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Average Values						
	Number (000)	Percent	Gross Countable Income (Dollars)	Net Countable Income (Dollars) ^a	Gross Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline (Percent)	Net Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline (Percent) ^a	Countable Resources (Dollars)		Food Stamp Benefit (Dollars)
							Over All Households	Over Households With Countable Resources	
Total	10,070	100.0	643	321	58.9	27.7	143	463	196
Household Composition									
Children	5,472	54.3	766	403	55.7	28.2	119	404	280
School Age	4,134	41.1	827	451	57.6	30.4	119	387	293
Preschool Age	2,901	28.8	745	382	52.3	25.5	117	413	302
No Children	4,598	45.7	496	219	62.7	27.2	171	528	97
Elderly Individuals	1,741	17.3	682	352	82.2	40.9	293	628	84
No Elderly Individuals	8,329	82.7	634	316	54.0	25.2	111	405	220
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^b	2,310	22.9	792	444	78.6	40.9	150	430	136
No Disabled Nonelderly Individuals	7,761	77.1	598	285	53.0	23.9	141	475	214
Household Size									
1	4,228	42.0	453	185	60.4	24.6	161	535	91
2	2,069	20.5	597	279	59.1	27.6	142	477	179
3	1,648	16.4	710	354	55.7	27.8	100	336	266
4	1,126	11.2	875	487	57.0	31.7	119	368	326
5	583	5.8	1,066	629	59.3	35.0	150	412	374
6	261	2.6	1,212	740	58.8	35.9	182	523	454
7	92	0.9	1,352	881	58.1	37.8	143	413	486
8+	63	0.6	1,604	1110	57.9	40.0	242	672	596

^a Because net income is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this column. Thus, the average values are based on fewer households than the number shown in the Total Households column.

^b Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-6. Distribution of Participating Households With Children, Elderly Individuals, and Disabled Nonelderly Individuals by Type of Countable Income

Type of Income	Total Households		Households With:					
	Total ^a	Percent	Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^b	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	5,472	100.0	1,741	100.0	2,310	100.0
Countable Earned Income	2,896	28.8	2,422	44.3	80	4.6	233	10.1
Wages and Salaries	2,589	25.7	2,200	40.2	64	3.7	206	8.9
Self-Employment	324	3.2	248	4.5	17	0.9	26	1.1
Other Earned Income	37	0.4	22	0.4	2	0.1	4	0.2
Countable Unearned Income	7,027	69.8	3,558	65.0	1,684	96.7	2,305	99.8
TANF	1,626	16.1	1,583	28.9	45	2.6	288	12.5
General Assistance	576	5.7	165	3.0	84	4.8	108	4.7
Supplemental Security Income	2,713	26.9	732	13.4	1,001	57.5	1,755	76.0
Social Security	2,313	23.0	517	9.5	1,177	67.6	1,024	44.3
Unemployment Income	248	2.5	187	3.4	6	0.3	17	0.7
Veterans' Benefits	105	1.0	20	0.4	56	3.2	40	1.7
Workers' Compensation	30	0.3	21	0.4	2	0.1	24	1.0
Other Government Benefits ^c	63	0.6	25	0.5	28	1.6	14	0.6
Household Contributions	361	3.6	253	4.6	26	1.5	26	1.1
Household Deemed Income	4	0.0	3	0.1	1	0.1	1	0.0
Educational Loans	4	0.0	3	0.1	0	0.0	1	0.0
Child Support Enforcement Payments	992	9.8	970	17.7	11	0.6	160	6.9
State Diversion Payments	8	0.1	6	0.1	1	0.0	3	0.1
Energy Assistance Income	2	0.0	1	0.0	2	0.1	0	0.0
Wage Supplementation	2	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
Other Unearned Income ^d	341	3.4	172	3.1	113	6.5	59	2.5
TANF or GA Income	2,191	21.8	1,737	31.7	129	7.4	392	17.0
TANF and Earnings	314	3.1	309	5.6	5	0.3	24	1.0
TANF and SSI	283	2.8	277	5.1	23	1.3	263	11.4
TANF or SSI or GA	4,485	44.5	2,151	39.3	1,059	60.8	1,793	77.6
(TANF or SSI or GA) and Earnings	523	5.2	435	7.9	29	1.6	183	7.9
TANF and Child Support	94	0.9	93	1.7	3	0.2	26	1.1
SSI and Social Security	1,048	10.4	186	3.4	555	31.9	523	22.6
SSI or Social Security	3,978	39.5	1,063	19.4	1,622	93.2	2,256	97.7
SSI and Earnings	200	2.0	125	2.3	23	1.3	179	7.8
GA and Earnings	39	0.4	26	0.5	2	0.1	6	0.3
Earnings and Child Support	411	4.1	406	7.4	1	0.1	22	1.0
No Countable Income	1,308	13.0	495	9.0	33	1.9	2	0.1

^a The sum of individual income sources does not add to the total because households can receive income from more than one source.

^b Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^c Examples of other government benefits include Black Lung Benefits, Railroad Retirement payments, and USDA payments to farmers.

^d Examples of other unearned income include alimony, foster care payments, and dividends and interest payments.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-7. Average Income, Total Deduction, Food Stamp Benefit, and Household Size of Participating Households by Type of Countable Income

Type of Income	Total Households		Average Values					
	Total ^a	Percent	Gross Countable Income (Dollars)	Net Countable Income (Dollars) ^b	Income Source (Dollars) ^c	Total Deduction (Dollars) ^d	Food Stamp Benefit (Dollars)	Household Size (Individuals)
Total	10,070	100.0	643	321	-	381	196	2.3
Countable Earned Income	2,896	28.8	1,011	519	851	517	230	3.2
Wages and Salaries	2,589	25.7	1,057	552	895	526	225	3.2
Self-Employment	324	3.2	714	305	422	464	275	3.0
Other Earned Income	37	0.4	534	197	257	402	255	2.6
Countable Unearned Income	7,027	69.8	689	355	570	365	180	2.3
TANF	1,626	16.1	664	349	383	340	273	3.1
General Assistance	576	5.7	484	209	251	323	164	1.7
Supplemental Security Income	2,713	26.9	727	402	445	345	121	1.8
Social Security	2,313	23.0	764	419	580	368	102	1.7
Unemployment Income	248	2.5	913	545	689	390	217	3.1
Veterans' Benefits	105	1.0	755	403	332	373	104	1.7
Workers' Compensation	30	0.3	946	581	653	401	187	2.9
Other Government Benefits ^e	63	0.6	839	481	337	370	141	2.2
Household Contributions	361	3.6	491	196	190	364	252	2.5
Household Deemed Income	4	0.0	664	299	401	388	166	2.0
Educational Loans	4	0.0	584	113	117	533	274	2.6
Child Support Enforcement Payments	992	9.8	837	467	287	407	275	3.5
State Diversion Payments	8	0.1	761	444	91	339	241	3.1
Energy Assistance Income	2	0.0	711	239	156	529	142	1.6
Wage Supplementation	2	0.0	1,033	827	516	200	203	3.7
Other Unearned Income ^f	341	3.4	785	413	253	403	174	2.3
TANF or GA Income	2,191	21.8	615	310	350	336	245	2.7
TANF and Earnings	314	3.1	1,030	593	964	446	248	3.5
TANF and SSI	283	2.8	1,031	711	863	321	206	3.5
TANF or SSI or GA	4,485	44.5	651	332	440	342	176	2.2
(TANF or SSI or GA) and Earnings	523	5.2	1,086	647	1015	448	215	3.4
TANF and Child Support	94	0.9	808	497	465	324	287	3.7
SSI and Social Security	1,048	10.4	712	399	654	331	94	1.6
SSI or Social Security	3,978	39.5	753	413	641	363	117	1.8
SSI and Earnings	200	2.0	1,232	799	1058	445	161	3.3
GA and Earnings	39	0.4	1,013	561	888	462	212	3.1
Earnings and Child Support	411	4.1	1,210	702	1150	518	224	3.7
No Countable Income	1,308	13.0	0	0	0	253	229	1.8

^a The sum of individual income sources does not add to the total because households can receive income from more than one source.

^b Because net income is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this column. Thus, the average values are based on fewer households than the number shown in the Total Households column.

^c Average value of specified source over households with income from source.

^d Because deductions are not used in their benefit determination, 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this column. Thus, the average values are based on fewer households than the number shown in the Total Households column.

^e Examples of other government benefits include Black Lung Benefits, Railroad Retirement payments, and USDA payments to farmers.

^f Examples of other unearned income include alimony, foster care payments, and dividends and interest payments.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-8. Distribution of Participating Households With Children, Elderly Individuals, and Disabled Nonelderly Individuals by Countable Earned and Unearned Income Amounts

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Households With:					
	Number (000)	Percent	Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	5,472	100.0	1,741	100.0	2,310	100.0
Countable Earned Income								
\$0	7,174	71.2	3,050	55.7	1,661	95.4	2,077	89.9
1-199	314	3.1	170	3.1	20	1.1	58	2.5
200-399	330	3.3	236	4.3	15	0.9	36	1.6
400-599	375	3.7	295	5.4	14	0.8	37	1.6
600-799	428	4.3	347	6.3	10	0.6	32	1.4
800-999	401	4.0	358	6.5	9	0.5	24	1.0
1,000+	1,049	10.4	1,016	18.6	12	0.7	45	2.0
Countable Unearned Income								
\$0	3,043	30.2	1,914	35.0	57	3.3	5	0.2
1-199	740	7.3	545	10.0	17	1.0	10	0.4
200-399	1,296	12.9	964	17.6	64	3.7	65	2.8
400-599	2,332	23.2	792	14.5	693	39.8	1,014	43.9
600-799	1,406	14.0	507	9.3	531	30.5	550	23.8
800-999	676	6.7	308	5.6	257	14.8	320	13.8
1,000+	576	5.7	442	8.1	123	7.0	345	15.0
Countable TANF Income								
\$0	8,444	83.9	3,889	71.1	1,696	97.4	2,022	87.5
1-199	331	3.3	321	5.9	19	1.1	87	3.8
200-399	653	6.5	629	11.5	17	1.0	119	5.1
400-599	405	4.0	396	7.2	5	0.3	60	2.6
600-799	172	1.7	171	3.1	2	0.1	16	0.7
800-999	44	0.4	44	0.8	1	0.0	5	0.2
1,000+	21	0.2	21	0.4	0	0.0	2	0.1
Countable GA Income								
\$0	9,494	94.3	5,307	97.0	1,657	95.2	2,202	95.3
1-199	227	2.3	36	0.7	52	3.0	68	2.9
200-399	262	2.6	67	1.2	25	1.4	25	1.1
400-599	60	0.6	37	0.7	6	0.3	11	0.5
600-799	19	0.2	19	0.3	1	0.1	2	0.1
800-999	5	0.1	5	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0
1,000+	3	0.0	2	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.1
Countable TANF or GA Income								
\$0	7,880	78.2	3,735	68.3	1,612	92.6	1,918	83.0
1-199	553	5.5	352	6.4	71	4.1	152	6.6
200-399	907	9.0	688	12.6	42	2.4	142	6.1
400-599	462	4.6	430	7.9	11	0.6	71	3.1
600-799	194	1.9	193	3.5	4	0.2	18	0.8
800-999	49	0.5	49	0.9	1	0.0	5	0.2
1,000+	27	0.3	25	0.5	1	0.0	3	0.1

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-8. Distribution of Participating Households With Children, Elderly Individuals, and Disabled Nonelderly Individuals by Countable Earned and Unearned Income Amounts — Continued

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Households With:					
	Number (000)	Percent	Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Countable SSI								
\$0	7,358	73.1	4,741	86.6	741	42.5	554	24.0
1-199	636	6.3	86	1.6	345	19.8	298	12.9
200-399	395	3.9	75	1.4	191	11.0	211	9.1
400-599	1,319	13.1	454	8.3	313	18.0	1,015	44.0
600-799	187	1.9	27	0.5	88	5.0	104	4.5
800-999	92	0.9	16	0.3	56	3.2	46	2.0
1,000+	83	0.8	73	1.3	7	0.4	81	3.5
Maximum for 1 Person ^b ..	595	5.9	183	3.3	146	8.4	451	19.5
Maximum for 2 Persons ^c ..	23	0.2	2	0.0	17	1.0	10	0.4
Countable Social Security								
\$0	7,757	77.0	4,955	90.5	565	32.4	1,286	55.7
1-199	126	1.3	65	1.2	39	2.2	50	2.2
200-399	399	4.0	100	1.8	193	11.1	169	7.3
400-599	793	7.9	136	2.5	428	24.6	344	14.9
600-799	623	6.2	94	1.7	334	19.2	274	11.9
800-999	241	2.4	52	0.9	129	7.4	109	4.7
1,000+	132	1.3	70	1.3	54	3.1	77	3.3
Other Countable Unearned Income								
\$0	8,042	79.9	3,928	71.8	1,505	86.4	1,984	85.9
1-199	792	7.9	536	9.8	141	8.1	141	6.1
200-399	617	6.1	509	9.3	54	3.1	88	3.8
400-599	273	2.7	214	3.9	22	1.3	42	1.8
600-799	156	1.6	122	2.2	11	0.6	21	0.9
800-999	80	0.8	60	1.1	6	0.3	15	0.6
1,000+	109	1.1	103	1.9	2	0.1	18	0.8

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^b The fiscal year 2004 maximum monthly SSI benefit for one person is \$564. The number shown is the number of households where one person receives an SSI benefit of this amount. (The household may contain more than one person.)

^c The fiscal year 2004 maximum monthly SSI benefit for two persons is \$846. The number shown is the number of households where two persons receive an SSI benefit of this amount. (The household may contain more than two persons.)

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-9. Distribution of Participating Households by Type of Deduction and Household Composition, Countable Income Source, and Food Stamp Benefit Amount

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Type of Deduction											
	Number (000)	Percent	Earned Income		Dependent Care			Excess Shelter			Medical		Child Support	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Percent With Maximum ^a	Number (000)	Percent	Percent With Maximum ^a	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	2,887	28.7	460	4.6	10.9	6,861	68.1	18.5	452	4.5	151	1.5
Household Composition														
Children	5,472	100.0	2,420	44.2	458	8.4	10.8	3,865	70.6	26.3	68	1.2	101	1.8
School Age	4,134	100.0	1,829	44.2	305	7.4	5.0	2,945	71.2	26.5	62	1.5	82	2.0
Preschool Age	2,901	100.0	1,374	47.4	347	11.9	11.8	1,996	68.8	26.9	19	0.6	53	1.8
No Children	4,598	100.0	467	10.2	2	0.0	29.8	2,996	65.2	8.4	384	8.4	50	1.1
Elderly Individuals	1,741	100.0	77	4.4	3	0.2	35.1	1,214	69.7	0.1	254	14.6	6	0.3
No Elderly Individuals	8,329	100.0	2,810	33.7	456	5.5	10.7	5,647	67.8	22.5	198	2.4	145	1.7
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^b	2,310	100.0	229	9.9	21	0.9	5.9	1,713	74.2	0.1	206	8.9	43	1.9
No Disabled Nonelderly Individuals	7,761	100.0	2,658	34.3	439	5.7	11.2	5,148	66.3	24.6	246	3.2	108	1.4
Countable Income Source														
Gross Income	8,762	100.0	2,887	33.0	454	5.2	10.8	6,353	72.5	16.5	452	5.2	147	1.7
No Gross Income	1,308	100.0	—	—	6	0.5	22.6	507	38.8	43.5	1	0.0	4	0.3
Net Income	6,804	100.0	2,416	35.5	388	5.7	9.9	4,895	72.0	11.6	394	5.8	117	1.7
No Net Income	2,956	100.0	461	15.6	71	2.4	16.5	1,965	66.5	35.8	58	2.0	34	1.1
Not Applicable ^c	310	100.0	10	3.1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Earned Income	2,896	100.0	2,887	99.7	415	14.3	10.3	2,076	71.7	27.4	36	1.2	88	3.0
No Earned Income	7,174	100.0	—	—	45	0.6	16.5	4,784	66.7	14.6	416	5.8	63	0.9
Unearned Income	7,027	100.0	1,153	16.4	206	2.9	9.4	5,062	72.0	12.9	448	6.4	94	1.3
No Unearned Income	3,043	100.0	1,735	57.0	254	8.3	12.1	1,799	59.1	34.2	5	0.1	57	1.9
TANF Income	1,626	100.0	313	19.3	40	2.4	4.1	1,149	70.7	23.6	14	0.8	9	0.6
No TANF Income	8,444	100.0	2,574	30.5	420	5.0	11.6	5,711	67.6	17.5	439	5.2	141	1.7
GA Income	576	100.0	39	6.7	6	1.0	19.9	401	69.7	19.8	12	2.1	2	0.3
No GA Income	9,494	100.0	2,849	30.0	454	4.8	10.8	6,459	68.0	18.4	440	4.6	149	1.6
SSI	2,713	100.0	194	7.1	19	0.7	5.0	1,914	70.6	0.1	100	3.7	24	0.9
No SSI	7,358	100.0	2,694	36.6	441	6.0	11.2	4,946	67.2	25.6	352	4.8	126	1.7
Social Security Income	2,313	100.0	163	7.1	12	0.5	15.6	1,698	73.4	1.9	395	17.1	33	1.4
No Social Security Income ...	7,757	100.0	2,724	35.1	447	5.8	10.8	5,162	66.5	24.0	57	0.7	117	1.5
Food Stamp Benefit														
Minimum Benefit	611	100.0	109	17.8	6	1.0	37.1	258	42.2	0.9	91	14.8	5	0.8
Maximum Benefit	3,086	100.0	463	15.0	71	2.3	16.5	1,968	63.8	35.7	58	1.9	34	1.1

^a Percent of households with deduction that receive the maximum.

^b Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^c Net income is not used in the benefit determination of MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

— No sample households in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-10. Average Values of Deductions of Participating Households by Household Composition, Countable Income Source, and Food Stamp Benefit Amount

Household Characteristic	Total Households (000)	Average Amount of Deduction (Dollars)									
		Earned Income ^a		Dependent Care ^b		Excess Shelter ^c		Medical ^b		Child Support ^c	
		All Households	With Deduction	All Households	With Deduction	All Households	With Deduction	All Households	With Deduction	All Households	With Deduction
Total	10,070	50	171	6	137	178	254	7	140	3	199
Household Composition											
Children	5,472	82	186	11	137	181	254	1	104	4	218
School Age	4,134	86	194	10	138	184	257	2	106	4	223
Preschool Age	2,901	90	189	17	140	172	248	1	82	4	233
No Children	4,598	10	90	0	146	175	253	13	146	2	161
Elderly Individuals	1,741	6	112	0	192	196	253	22	134	1	188
No Elderly Individuals ..	8,329	59	172	8	136	175	254	4	147	4	200
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^d	2,310	13	122	1	137	202	261	14	147	3	153
No Disabled Nonelderly Individuals	7,761	61	175	8	137	171	251	4	134	3	218
Countable Income Source											
Gross Income	8,762	58	171	7	137	188	250	8	140	3	201
No Gross Income	1,308	0	0	1	134	116	300	0	49	0	126
Net Income	6,804	68	191	8	136	160	222	6	106	3	194
No Net Income	2,956	9	60	3	137	222	333	7	368	2	217
Not Applicable ^e	310	59	229	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Earned Income	2,896	170	171	20	140	179	249	2	176	7	216
No Earned Income	7,174	0	0	1	104	178	256	8	137	2	175
Unearned Income	7,027	25	145	4	142	188	250	9	140	3	187
No Unearned Income ...	3,043	107	188	11	132	157	265	0	169	4	220
TANF Income	1,626	25	132	2	100	177	245	1	106	1	170
No TANF Income	8,444	55	175	7	140	179	255	8	141	3	201
GA Income	576	8	124	1	112	169	241	3	148	1	191
No GA Income	9,494	53	171	7	137	179	255	7	140	3	199
SSI	2,713	10	122	1	143	192	245	4	107	1	145
No SSI	7,358	64	174	8	136	174	257	7	149	4	210
Social Security Income	2,313	9	114	1	157	196	252	25	140	3	166
No Social Security Income	7,757	63	174	8	136	173	254	1	137	3	209
Food Stamp Benefit											
Minimum Benefit	611	31	174	1	116	50	118	12	80	2	207
Maximum Benefit	3,086	9	60	3	137	222	333	7	366	2	217

^a Because this deduction is not used in their benefit determination, 310,069 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington are excluded from this column. Thus, the average values are based on fewer households than the number shown in the Total Households column.

^b Because this deduction is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 310,069 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington are excluded from this column. Thus, the average values are based on fewer households than the number shown in the Total Households column.

^c Because this deduction is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this column. Thus, the average values are based on fewer households than the number shown in the Total Households column.

^d Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^e Net income is not used in the benefit determination of MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-11. Distribution of Participating Households by Selected Household Characteristics and Amount of Deduction

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Households With:							
	Number (000)	Percent	Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a		Countable Earned Income	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	5,472	100.0	1,741	100.0	2,310	100.0	2,896	100.0
Total Deduction										
\$0-117	30	0.3	29	0.5	–	–	0	0.0	2	0.1
118-133	2	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	0.0
134	1,799	17.9	718	13.1	266	15.3	312	13.5	0	0.0
135-150	199	2.0	121	2.2	37	2.1	70	3.0	34	1.2
151-200	574	5.7	279	5.1	130	7.5	201	8.7	98	3.4
201-250	655	6.5	282	5.1	169	9.7	220	9.5	131	4.5
251-300	759	7.5	373	6.8	147	8.4	217	9.4	176	6.1
301-350	843	8.4	468	8.6	154	8.8	212	9.2	237	8.2
351-400	762	7.6	419	7.7	129	7.4	188	8.1	247	8.5
401-450	654	6.5	392	7.2	103	5.9	161	7.0	250	8.6
451-500	584	5.8	358	6.5	83	4.8	145	6.3	231	8.0
501+	2,938	29.2	2,032	37.1	344	19.8	489	21.2	1,482	51.2
Not Applicable ^b	273	2.7	–	–	179	10.3	93	4.0	5	0.2
Earned Income Deduction										
None	6,873	68.2	3,052	55.8	1,473	84.6	1,962	84.9	4	0.1
\$1-50	406	4.0	230	4.2	24	1.4	69	3.0	406	14.0
51-100	420	4.2	320	5.9	16	0.9	39	1.7	420	14.5
101-150	514	5.1	415	7.6	13	0.8	46	2.0	514	17.7
151-200	505	5.0	445	8.1	11	0.6	30	1.3	505	17.4
201-250	409	4.1	387	7.1	8	0.5	18	0.8	409	14.1
251-300	294	2.9	286	5.2	2	0.1	14	0.6	294	10.1
301+	341	3.4	337	6.2	3	0.2	13	0.6	341	11.8
Not Applicable ^c	310	3.1	–	–	191	11.0	119	5.2	5	0.2
Dependent Care Deduction										
None	9,263	92.0	4,978	91.0	1,547	88.8	2,169	93.9	2,466	85.2
\$1-50	109	1.1	108	2.0	1	0.1	6	0.3	89	3.1
51-100	94	0.9	94	1.7	–	–	4	0.2	86	3.0
101-150	77	0.8	77	1.4	1	0.0	1	0.1	75	2.6
151-200	100	1.0	99	1.8	0	0.0	4	0.2	90	3.1
201+	79	0.8	79	1.4	1	0.1	6	0.3	75	2.6
Not Applicable ^d	348	3.5	36	0.7	191	11.0	119	5.2	15	0.5
Medical Deduction										
None	9,271	92.1	5,368	98.1	1,296	74.4	1,984	85.9	2,845	98.2
\$1-25	85	0.8	14	0.3	41	2.4	45	1.9	5	0.2
26-50	101	1.0	20	0.4	46	2.7	56	2.4	6	0.2
51-75	48	0.5	5	0.1	29	1.7	20	0.9	3	0.1
76-100	31	0.3	3	0.1	19	1.1	12	0.5	2	0.1
101-150	75	0.7	12	0.2	49	2.8	27	1.2	7	0.2
151-200	35	0.3	5	0.1	23	1.3	14	0.6	2	0.1
201-300	33	0.3	4	0.1	21	1.2	12	0.5	4	0.1
301+	43	0.4	5	0.1	24	1.4	20	0.9	8	0.3
Not Applicable ^d	348	3.5	36	0.7	191	11.0	119	5.2	15	0.5
Child Support Deduction										
None	9,609	95.4	5,335	97.5	1,556	89.4	2,173	94.1	2,793	96.4
\$1-50	29	0.3	15	0.3	1	0.1	13	0.6	10	0.4
51-100	23	0.2	13	0.2	1	0.1	11	0.5	12	0.4
101-150	21	0.2	14	0.3	1	0.1	5	0.2	14	0.5
151-200	19	0.2	12	0.2	0	0.0	4	0.2	13	0.5
201-250	18	0.2	14	0.3	1	0.1	3	0.1	12	0.4
251-300	10	0.1	7	0.1	0	0.0	2	0.1	6	0.2
301+	32	0.3	26	0.5	0	0.0	5	0.2	20	0.7
Not Applicable ^e	310	3.1	36	0.7	180	10.3	94	4.1	15	0.5

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-11. Distribution of Participating Households by Selected Household Characteristics and Amount of Deduction — Continued

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Households With:							
	Number (000)	Percent	Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a		Countable Earned Income	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Excess Shelter Deduction										
None	2,899	28.8	1,571	28.7	348	20.0	503	21.8	805	27.8
\$1-50	556	5.5	322	5.9	115	6.6	158	6.8	184	6.3
51-100	672	6.7	325	5.9	157	9.0	212	9.2	180	6.2
101-150	742	7.4	397	7.2	155	8.9	197	8.5	219	7.6
151-200	810	8.0	428	7.8	154	8.8	210	9.1	214	7.4
201-250	733	7.3	388	7.1	134	7.7	185	8.0	191	6.6
251-300	640	6.4	353	6.5	109	6.2	157	6.8	190	6.6
301-350	542	5.4	311	5.7	85	4.9	147	6.4	192	6.6
351-377	250	2.5	149	2.7	37	2.1	57	2.5	83	2.9
378	1,267	12.6	1,015	18.5	1	0.1	2	0.1	568	19.6
379+	649	6.4	177	3.2	267	15.3	388	16.8	55	1.9
Not Applicable ^e	310	3.1	36	0.7	180	10.3	94	4.1	15	0.5
No Deduction	2,899	28.8	1,571	28.7	348	20.0	503	21.8	805	27.8
Deduction Less Than Cap ^f	4,947	49.1	2,675	48.9	946	54.3	1,324	57.3	1,454	50.2
Deduction Equal to Cap	1,269	12.6	1,017	18.6	1	0.1	2	0.1	569	19.7
Benefit Less than Maximum										
Benefit	566	5.6	515	9.4	1	0.0	2	0.1	379	13.1
Benefit Equal to Maximum										
Benefit	703	7.0	501	9.2	0	0.0	—	—	191	6.6
Deduction Greater Than Cap	644	6.4	174	3.2	267	15.3	387	16.8	53	1.8

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^b Deductions are not used in the benefit determination of SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

^c This deduction is not used in the benefit determination of SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington.

^d This deduction is not used in the benefit determination of MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington.

^e This deduction is not used in the benefit determination of MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

^f Households without elderly or disabled members are subject to a cap on their excess shelter deduction.

— No sample households in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-12. Distribution of Participating Households by Selected Household Characteristics and Food Stamp Benefit Amount, Food Stamp Benefit as a Percentage of the Maximum Benefit, and Certification Period

	Total Households		Households With:									
	Number (000)	Percent	Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a		Countable Earned Income		Countable TANF Income	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	5,472	100.0	1,741	100.0	2,310	100.0	2,896	100.0	1,626	100.0
Food Stamp Benefit												
\$10 or less	624	6.2	75	1.4	309	17.7	241	10.4	112	3.9	22	1.3
11 - 25	332	3.3	42	0.8	147	8.5	148	6.4	45	1.6	12	0.7
26 - 50	635	6.3	100	1.8	306	17.6	253	10.9	94	3.2	25	1.5
51 - 75	565	5.6	127	2.3	195	11.2	263	11.4	122	4.2	28	1.7
76 - 100	587	5.8	183	3.3	174	10.0	242	10.5	145	5.0	50	3.1
101 - 150	2,665	26.5	588	10.7	435	25.0	489	21.2	538	18.6	191	11.8
151 - 200	612	6.1	522	9.5	56	3.2	159	6.9	322	11.1	157	9.7
201 - 300	1,879	18.7	1,678	30.7	85	4.9	266	11.5	721	24.9	543	33.4
301 or more	2,171	21.6	2,156	39.4	34	1.9	250	10.8	798	27.5	597	36.7
Benefit as a Percentage of the Maximum												
Minimum	611	6.1	70	1.3	303	17.4	235	10.2	109	3.8	22	1.3
< 25% ^b	896	8.9	366	6.7	298	17.1	362	15.7	279	9.6	76	4.7
25 - 50	1,702	16.9	920	16.8	426	24.5	601	26.0	686	23.7	202	12.4
51 - 75	1,885	18.7	1,263	23.1	283	16.2	556	24.1	769	26.6	401	24.7
76 - 99	1,889	18.8	1,379	25.2	182	10.5	319	13.8	588	20.3	577	35.5
Maximum	3,086	30.6	1,476	27.0	250	14.4	236	10.2	464	16.0	349	21.4
Months in Certification Period												
Average ^c	10	—	8	—	16	—	13	—	8	—	9	—
1	25	0.2	9	0.2	1	0.1	2	0.1	4	0.2	2	0.1
2	45	0.4	17	0.3	2	0.1	3	0.1	6	0.2	3	0.2
3	276	2.7	128	2.3	8	0.5	20	0.9	66	2.3	27	1.7
4	158	1.6	61	1.1	4	0.2	13	0.5	42	1.4	17	1.0
5	164	1.6	110	2.0	7	0.4	20	0.9	55	1.9	32	1.9
6	3,569	35.4	2,668	48.7	149	8.6	499	21.6	1,566	54.1	578	35.5
7	213	2.1	137	2.5	11	0.6	28	1.2	82	2.8	35	2.2
8	63	0.6	37	0.7	7	0.4	6	0.2	21	0.7	9	0.6
9	32	0.3	21	0.4	3	0.2	8	0.3	10	0.3	6	0.4
10	59	0.6	33	0.6	8	0.5	11	0.5	16	0.6	15	0.9
11	131	1.3	62	1.1	31	1.8	33	1.4	28	1.0	24	1.5
12	4,368	43.4	2,100	38.4	1,004	57.7	1,266	54.8	961	33.2	840	51.7
13+	947	9.4	79	1.4	500	28.7	395	17.1	37	1.3	32	2.0
Unknown	19	0.2	10	0.2	5	0.3	5	0.2	3	0.1	5	0.3

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^b Does not include households with the minimum benefit.

^c Average number of months in certification period. Percent not applicable in this row.

— Not Applicable.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-13. Distribution of Participating Households by Type of Most Recent Action and Expedited Service

Most Recent Action and Expedited Service	Total Households		Entrants		Other Households	
	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	564	100.0	9,506	100.0
Initial Certification	3,832	38.1	564	100.0	3,267	34.4
Eligible For and Receiving Expedited Service	975	9.7	234	41.4	741	7.8
Eligible For But Did Not Receive Expedited Service	215	2.1	36	6.4	179	1.9
Not Eligible For Expedited Service	2,642	26.2	295	52.2	2,347	24.7
Recertification	6,238	61.9	–	–	6,238	65.6
Eligible For and Receiving Expedited Service	83	0.8	–	–	83	0.9
Eligible For But Did Not Receive Expedited Service	67	0.7	–	–	67	0.7
Not Eligible For Expedited Service	6,088	60.5	–	–	6,088	64.0

– By definition these are mutually exclusive categories; therefore, no households will be found in these categories.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-14. Distribution of Participating Households, Individuals, and Benefits by Household Composition

Household Composition	Food Stamp Households		Participants in Households With Household Characteristic		Monthly Food Stamp Benefits	
	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Dollars (000)	Percent
Total^a	10,070	100.0	23,486	100.0	1,978,371	100.0
Children^b	5,472	54.3	18,260	77.8	1,532,441	77.5
Single-Adult Household ^c	3,450	34.3	10,548	44.9	937,112	47.4
Male Adult	177	1.8	493	2.1	44,081	2.2
Female Adult	3,272	32.5	10,054	42.8	893,024	45.1
Multiple-Adult Household	1,493	14.8	6,636	28.3	487,524	24.6
Married Head Household	1,004	10.0	4,533	19.3	324,359	16.4
Other Multiple-Adult Household	489	4.9	2,103	9.0	163,166	8.2
Children Only	530	5.3	1,076	4.6	107,804	5.4
Elderly Individuals	1,741	17.3	2,307	9.8	146,497	7.4
Living Alone	1,357	13.5	1,357	5.8	88,020	4.4
Not Living Alone	385	3.8	950	4.0	58,477	3.0
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals^d ..	2,310	22.9	4,840	20.6	314,216	15.9
Living Alone	1,243	12.3	1,243	5.3	84,248	4.3
Not Living Alone	1,067	10.6	3,597	15.3	229,967	11.6
Other Households^e	1,564	15.5	1,715	7.3	216,657	11.0
Single-Person Household	1,426	14.2	1,426	6.1	186,216	9.4
Multi-Person Household	138	1.4	289	1.2	30,442	1.5
Nonelderly, Nondisabled, Childless Adults^f	804	8.0	1,397	5.9	143,334	7.2
Single-Person Household	527	5.2	527	2.2	68,851	3.5
Multi-Person Household	277	2.7	870	3.7	74,483	3.8
Single-Person Households	4,228	42.0	4,228	18.0	382,741	19.3

^a The sum of individual categories does not match the table total because a household can have more than one of the characteristics in the table.

^b Individuals with missing age were assigned child or adult status based on their relationship to the household head

^c Because gender is missing for some individuals in the FSPQC sample, the sum of single-adult households headed by males plus the number headed by females may not add up to the total number of single-adult households.

^d Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^e Households not containing children, elderly individuals, or disabled individuals.

^f These participants, age 18-49, are subject to work registration and, with some exceptions (for example, those in waiver areas or receiving state exemptions), must meet work requirements or face time limits on benefit receipt.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-15. Average Gross and Net Countable Income, Total Deduction, Countable Resources, Food Stamp Benefit, Household Size, and Certification Period of Participating Households by Household Composition

Household Composition	Total Households		Average Values						
	Number (000)	Percent	Gross Countable Income (Dollars)	Net Countable Income (Dollars) ^a	Total Deduction (Dollars) ^b	Countable Resources (Dollars)	Food Stamp Benefit (Dollars)	Household Size (Individuals)	Certification Period (Months)
Total^c	10,070	100.0	643	321	381	143	196	2.3	10.5
Children^d	5,472	54.3	766	403	417	119	280	3.3	8.5
Single-Adult Household ^e	3,450	34.3	675	339	392	105	272	3.1	8.5
Male Adult	177	1.8	673	321	418	116	249	2.8	8.8
Female Adult	3,272	32.5	675	340	391	105	273	3.1	8.5
Multiple-Adult Household ...	1,493	14.8	1069	625	489	175	327	4.4	8.3
Married Head Household ..	1,004	10.0	1123	659	508	209	323	4.5	8.2
Other Multiple-Adult Household	489	4.9	958	554	448	106	334	4.3	8.6
Children Only	530	5.3	502	189	374	52	204	2.0	9.3
Elderly Individuals	1,741	17.3	682	352	360	293	84	1.3	15.8
Living Alone	1,357	13.5	619	290	349	304	65	1.0	16.9
Not Living Alone	385	3.8	903	540	392	255	152	2.5	11.9
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals^f	2,310	22.9	792	444	369	150	136	2.1	12.6
Living Alone	1,243	12.3	621	272	365	150	68	1.0	15.0
Not Living Alone	1,067	10.6	991	630	374	149	215	3.4	9.8
Other Households^g	1,564	15.5	191	53	286	49	139	1.1	7.6
Single-Person Household	1,426	14.2	165	41	273	47	131	1.0	7.6
Multi-Person Household	138	1.4	453	171	422	70	221	2.1	7.8
Nonelderly, Nondisabled, Childless Adults^h	804	8.0	342	152	312	67	178	1.7	8.0
Single-Person Household	527	5.2	137	39	252	31	131	1.0	7.3
Multi-Person Household	277	2.7	733	367	427	136	269	3.1	9.3
Single-Person Households	4,228	42.0	453	185	326	161	91	1.0	12.8

^a Because net income is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this column. Thus, the average values are based on fewer households than the number shown in the Total Households column.

^b Because deductions are not used in their benefit determination, 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this column. Thus, the average values are based on fewer households than the number shown in the Total Households column.

^c The sum of individual categories does not match the table total because a household can have more than one of the characteristics in the table.

^d Individuals with missing age were assigned child or adult status based on their relationship to the household head

^e Because gender is missing for some individuals in the FSPQC sample, the sum of single-adult households headed by males plus the number headed by females may not add up to the total number of single-adult households.

^f Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^g Households not containing children, elderly individuals, or disabled individuals.

^h These participants, age 18-49, are subject to work registration and, with some exceptions (for example, those in waiver areas or receiving state exemptions), must meet work requirements or face time limits on benefit receipt.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-16. Distribution of Participating Households by Countable Income Type and Household Composition

Household Composition	Total Households		Countable Income Type											
	Number (000)	Percent	Earned Income		Zero Gross Income		TANF Income		GA Income		SSI		Social Security Income	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total^a	10,070	100.0	2,896	100.0	1,308	100.0	1,626	100.0	576	100.0	2,713	100.0	2,313	100.0
Children^b	5,472	54.3	2,422	83.6	495	37.8	1,584	97.4	165	28.7	732	27.0	517	22.4
Single-Adult Household ^c	3,450	34.3	1,303	45.0	351	26.8	1,060	65.2	112	19.5	465	17.1	319	13.8
Male Adult	177	1.8	56	1.9	20	1.6	56	3.5	4	0.8	26	0.9	32	1.4
Female Adult	3,272	32.5	1,246	43.0	330	25.2	1,004	61.7	108	18.7	439	16.2	287	12.4
Multiple-Adult Household	1,493	14.8	900	31.1	105	8.1	289	17.7	36	6.3	249	9.2	182	7.9
Married Head Household	1,004	10.0	650	22.5	73	5.6	164	10.1	14	2.4	140	5.2	116	5.0
Other Multiple-Adult Household	489	4.9	250	8.6	32	2.5	125	7.7	23	3.9	109	4.0	66	2.9
Children Only	530	5.3	218	7.5	39	3.0	235	14.5	16	2.8	18	0.7	16	0.7
Elderly Individuals	1,741	17.3	80	2.8	33	2.6	45	2.8	84	14.7	1,001	36.9	1,177	50.9
Living Alone	1,357	13.5	34	1.2	24	1.9	2	0.1	58	10.1	792	29.2	936	40.5
Not Living Alone ...	385	3.8	46	1.6	9	0.7	44	2.7	26	4.6	209	7.7	240	10.4
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals^d	2,310	22.9	233	8.1	2	0.2	288	17.7	108	18.7	1,755	64.7	1,024	44.3
Living Alone	1,243	12.3	55	1.9	1	0.1	1	0.1	52	9.1	908	33.5	610	26.4
Not Living Alone ...	1,067	10.6	178	6.1	1	0.1	286	17.6	56	9.6	848	31.2	414	17.9
Other Households^e	1,564	15.5	337	11.6	782	59.8	32	2.0	274	47.5	1	0.0	4	0.2
Single-Person	1,426	14.2	269	9.3	743	56.8	25	1.5	264	45.8	0	0.0	3	0.2
Multi-Person	138	1.4	69	2.4	39	3.0	8	0.5	10	1.7	0	0.0	1	0.0
Nonelderly, Nondisabled, Childless Adults^f	804	8.0	228	7.9	359	27.5	29	1.8	59	10.2	77	2.8	51	2.2
Single-Person Household	527	5.2	103	3.6	323	24.7	2	0.1	47	8.2	8	0.3	8	0.3
Multi-Person Household	277	2.7	125	4.3	36	2.7	27	1.6	12	2.0	68	2.5	43	1.9
Single-Person Households	4,228	42.0	439	15.2	788	60.2	116	7.1	379	65.8	1,701	62.7	1,555	67.2

^a The sum of individual categories does not match the table total because a household can have more than one of the characteristics in the table.

^b Individuals with missing age were assigned child or adult status based on their relationship to the household head

^c Because gender is missing for some individuals in the FSPQC sample, the sum of single-adult households headed by males plus the number headed by females may not add up to the total number of single-adult households.

^d Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^e Households not containing children, elderly individuals, or disabled individuals.

^f These participants, age 18-49, are subject to work registration and, with some exceptions (for example, those in waiver areas or receiving state exemptions), must meet work requirements or face time limits on benefit receipt.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-17. Distribution of Participating Households With Children, Elderly Individuals, and Disabled Nonelderly Individuals by Selected Characteristics

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Household With:									
	Number (000)	Percent	Children		School Age Children		Preschool Age Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	5,472	100.0	4,134	100.0	2,901	100.0	1,741	100.0	2,310	100.0
Household Composition												
Children	5,472	54.3	5,472	100.0	4,134	100.0	2,901	100.0	113	6.5	864	37.4
School Age	4,134	41.1	4,134	75.5	4,134	100.0	1,563	53.9	104	6.0	767	33.2
Preschool Age	2,901	28.8	2,901	53.0	1,563	37.8	2,901	100.0	28	1.6	316	13.7
Elderly Individuals	1,741	17.3	113	2.1	104	2.5	28	1.0	1,741	100.0	56	2.4
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a	2,310	22.9	864	15.8	767	18.5	316	10.9	56	3.2	2,310	100.0
Countable Income Source and Resources												
Gross Income	8,762	87.0	4,977	91.0	3,818	92.3	2,599	89.6	1,708	98.1	2,308	99.9
No Gross Income	1,308	13.0	495	9.0	317	7.7	302	10.4	33	1.9	2	0.1
Net Income	6,804	67.6	3,963	72.4	3,126	75.6	2,031	70.0	1,388	79.7	2,031	87.9
No Net Income	2,956	29.4	1,473	26.9	984	23.8	851	29.3	174	10.0	186	8.0
Not Applicable ^b	310	3.1	36	0.7	24	0.6	19	0.7	180	10.3	94	4.1
Earned Income	2,896	28.8	2,422	44.3	1,830	44.3	1,374	47.4	80	4.6	233	10.1
Unearned Income	7,027	69.8	3,558	65.0	2,812	68.0	1,740	60.0	1,684	96.7	2,305	99.8
TANF Income	1,626	16.1	1,583	28.9	1,160	28.1	831	28.7	45	2.6	288	12.5
GA Income	576	5.7	165	3.0	130	3.1	77	2.7	84	4.8	108	4.7
SSI	2,713	26.9	732	13.4	651	15.7	262	9.0	1,001	57.5	1,755	76.0
Social Security Income	2,313	23.0	517	9.5	474	11.5	161	5.6	1,177	67.6	1,024	44.3
Countable Resources	3,104	30.8	1,614	29.5	1,272	30.8	823	28.4	814	46.7	803	34.8
Deductions												
Total Deduction	9,770	97.0	5,445	99.5	4,115	99.5	2,887	99.5	1,562	89.7	2,216	96.0
Earned Income Deduction	2,887	28.7	2,420	44.2	1,829	44.2	1,374	47.4	77	4.4	229	9.9
Dependent Care Deduction	460	4.6	458	8.4	305	7.4	347	11.9	3	0.2	21	0.9
Excess Shelter Deduction	6,861	68.1	3,865	70.6	2,945	71.2	1,996	68.8	1,214	69.7	1,713	74.2
Medical Deduction	452	4.5	68	1.2	62	1.5	19	0.6	254	14.6	206	8.9
Child Support Deduction	151	1.5	101	1.8	82	2.0	53	1.8	6	0.3	43	1.9
Food Stamp Benefit												
\$10 or Less	624	6.2	75	1.4	52	1.3	24	0.8	309	17.7	241	10.4
11-100	2,119	21.0	452	8.3	344	8.3	175	6.0	822	47.2	905	39.2
101-200	3,277	32.5	1,110	20.3	787	19.0	518	17.9	492	28.3	648	28.1
201-300	1,879	18.7	1,678	30.7	1,131	27.4	876	30.2	85	4.9	266	11.5
301 or More	2,171	21.6	2,156	39.4	1,820	44.0	1,308	45.1	34	1.9	250	10.8
Minimum Benefit	611	6.1	70	1.3	47	1.1	23	0.8	303	17.4	235	10.2
Maximum Benefit	3,086	30.6	1,476	27.0	986	23.8	852	29.4	250	14.4	236	10.2
Household Size												
1	4,228	42.0	210	3.8	97	2.3	113	3.9	1,357	77.9	1,243	53.8
2	2,069	20.5	1,532	28.0	883	21.4	708	24.4	291	16.7	398	17.2
3	1,648	16.4	1,611	29.4	1,222	29.6	821	28.3	47	2.7	262	11.3
4	1,126	11.2	1,121	20.5	966	23.4	634	21.8	24	1.4	188	8.1
5	583	5.8	582	10.6	556	13.4	343	11.8	10	0.6	122	5.3
6+	416	4.1	416	7.6	411	9.9	283	9.7	12	0.7	98	4.3

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^b Net income is not used in the benefit determination of MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-18. Average Values of Selected Characteristics for Participating Households With Children, Elderly Individuals, and Disabled Nonelderly Individuals

Household Characteristic	Average Values for Households With:					
	Total	Children	School Age Children	Preschool Age Children	Elderly Individuals	Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a
Countable Income and Resources						
Gross Income	643	766	827	745	682	792
Net Income ^b	321	403	451	382	352	444
Earned Income	245	411	430	448	26	61
Unearned Income	398	355	397	297	656	731
TANF Income	62	112	113	113	7	40
GA Income	14	11	12	10	8	9
SSI	120	73	87	51	216	371
Social Security Income	133	56	68	32	395	266
Countable Resources	143	119	119	117	293	150
Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline						
Gross Income	58.9	55.7	57.6	52.3	82.2	78.6
Net Income ^b	26.9	28.0	30.2	25.4	36.7	39.2
Deductions						
Total Deduction ^c	381	417	425	421	360	369
Earned Income Deduction ^d	50	82	86	90	6	13
Over Households With Deduction	171	186	194	189	112	122
Dependent Care Deduction ^e	6	11	10	17	0	1
Over Households With Deduction	137	137	138	140	192	137
Excess Shelter Deduction ^f	178	181	184	172	196	202
Over Households With Deduction	254	254	257	248	253	261
Medical Deduction ^e	7	1	2	1	22	14
Over Households With Deduction	140	104	106	82	134	147
Child Support Deduction ^f	3	4	4	4	1	3
Over Households With Deduction	199	218	223	233	188	153
Food Stamp Benefit	196	280	293	302	84	136
Household Size	2.3	3.3	3.6	3.5	1.3	2.1
Certification Period	10.5	8.5	8.6	8.3	15.8	12.6

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^b Because net income is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this category.

^c Because deductions are not used in their benefit determination, 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this category.

^d Because this deduction is not used in their benefit determination, 310,069 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington are excluded from this category.

^e Because this deduction is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 310,069 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington are excluded from this category.

^f Because this deduction is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-19. Distribution of Participating Households With Countable Earned and Unearned Income by Selected Characteristics

Household Characteristic	Total Households		Countable Income Type							
	Number (000)	Percent	Earned Income		Unearned Income		TANF Income		GA Income	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	2,896	100.0	7,027	100.0	1,626	100.0	576	100.0
Household Composition										
Children	5,472	54.3	2,422	83.6	3,558	50.6	1,583	97.4	165	28.7
School Age	4,134	41.1	1,830	63.2	2,812	40.0	1,160	71.3	130	22.5
Preschool Age	2,901	28.8	1,374	47.5	1,740	24.8	831	51.1	77	13.4
Elderly Individuals	1,741	17.3	80	2.8	1,684	24.0	45	2.8	84	14.7
Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a	2,310	22.9	233	8.1	2,305	32.8	288	17.7	108	18.7
Countable Income Source and Resources										
Gross Income	8,762	87.0	2,896	100.0	7,027	100.0	1,626	100.0	576	100.0
No Gross Income ^b	1,308	13.0	-	-	0	0.0	-	-	-	-
Net Income	6,804	67.6	2,419	83.5	5,443	77.5	1,248	76.8	363	63.1
No Net Income	2,956	29.4	462	16.0	1,277	18.2	348	21.4	211	36.6
Not Applicable ^c	310	3.1	15	0.5	306	4.4	30	1.8	2	0.3
Earned Income	2,896	28.8	2,896	100.0	1,161	16.5	314	19.3	39	6.7
Unearned Income	7,027	69.8	1,161	40.1	7,027	100.0	1,626	100.0	576	100.0
TANF Income	1,626	16.1	314	10.8	1,626	23.1	1,626	100.0	11	2.0
GA Income	576	5.7	39	1.3	576	8.2	11	0.7	576	100.0
SSI Income	2,713	26.9	200	6.9	2,713	38.6	283	17.4	140	24.3
Social Security Income	2,313	23.0	168	5.8	2,313	32.9	131	8.0	64	11.2
Countable Resources	3,104	30.8	1,085	37.4	2,295	32.7	277	17.0	70	12.2
Deductions										
Total Deduction	9,770	97.0	2,891	99.8	6,728	95.8	1,602	98.5	574	99.7
Earned Income Deduction	2,887	28.7	2,887	99.7	1,153	16.4	313	19.3	39	6.7
Dependent Care Deduction	460	4.6	415	14.3	206	2.9	40	2.4	6	1.0
Excess Shelter Deduction	6,861	68.1	2,076	71.7	5,062	72.0	1,149	70.7	401	69.7
Medical Deduction	452	4.5	36	1.2	448	6.4	14	0.8	12	2.1
Child Support Deduction	151	1.5	88	3.0	94	1.3	9	0.6	2	0.3
Food Stamp Benefit										
\$10 or Less	624	6.2	112	3.9	585	8.3	22	1.3	32	5.6
11-100	2,119	21.0	406	14.0	1,925	27.4	115	7.1	90	15.7
101-200	3,277	32.5	860	29.7	1,937	27.6	349	21.4	321	55.7
201-300	1,879	18.7	721	24.9	1,202	17.1	543	33.4	67	11.7
301 or More	2,171	21.6	798	27.5	1,378	19.6	597	36.7	65	11.2
Minimum Benefit	611	6.1	109	3.8	572	8.1	22	1.3	31	5.5
Maximum Benefit	3,086	30.6	464	16.0	1,406	20.0	349	21.4	213	36.9
Household Size										
1	4,228	42.0	439	15.2	3,122	44.4	116	7.1	379	65.8
2	2,069	20.5	627	21.7	1,461	20.8	547	33.6	92	16.0
3	1,648	16.4	711	24.5	1,080	15.4	447	27.5	43	7.5
4	1,126	11.2	565	19.5	710	10.1	268	16.5	28	4.9
5	583	5.8	317	11.0	375	5.3	137	8.4	16	2.8
6+	416	4.1	237	8.2	279	4.0	111	6.8	17	3.0

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^b Some states allow child support expenses to be subtracted before gross income is calculated. As a result, it is possible to have countable income but no gross income.

^c Net income is not used in the benefit determination of MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

- No sample households in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-20. Average Values of Selected Characteristics for Participating Households With Countable Earned and Unearned Income

Household Characteristic	Average Values for Households With:				
	Total	Countable Earned Income	Countable Unearned Income	Countable TANF Income	Countable GA Income
Countable Income and Resources					
Gross Income	643	1,011	689	664	484
Net Income ^a	321	519	355	349	209
Earned Income	245	851	119	126	42
Unearned Income	398	160	570	539	442
TANF Income	62	34	89	383	7
GA Income	14	4	21	2	251
SSI	120	32	172	95	116
Social Security Income	133	30	191	37	54
Countable Resources	143	166	162	58	54
Countable Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guideline					
Gross Income	58.9	76.4	66.5	50.8	50.1
Net Income ^a	26.9	37.1	30.8	24.8	19.3
Deductions					
Total Deduction ^b	381	517	365	340	323
Earned Income Deduction ^c	50	170	25	25	8
Over Households With Deduction	171	171	145	132	124
Dependent Care Deduction ^d	6	20	4	2	1
Over Households With Deduction	137	140	142	100	112
Excess Shelter Deduction ^e	178	179	188	177	169
Over Households With Deduction	254	249	250	245	241
Medical Deduction ^d	7	2	9	1	3
Over Households With Deduction	140	176	140	106	148
Child Support Deduction ^e	3	7	3	1	1
Over Households With Deduction	199	216	187	170	191
Food Stamp Benefit	196	230	180	273	164
Household Size	2.3	3.2	2.3	3.1	1.7
Certification Period	10.5	8.2	11.7	9.4	10.8

^a Because net income is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this category.

^b Because deductions are not used in their benefit determination, 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this category.

^c Because this deduction is not used in their benefit determination, 310,069 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington are excluded from this category.

^d Because this deduction is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 310,069 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington are excluded from this category.

^e Because this deduction is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-21. Distribution of Participating Households With Selected Household Characteristics by the Race of the Household Head

Characteristic	Total Households		Households With:									
	Number (000)	Percent	Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a		Countable Earned Income		Countable TANF Income	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	5,472	100.0	1,741	100.0	2,310	100.0	2,896	100.0	1,626	100.0
Race of Household Head												
White	4,627	45.9	2,157	39.4	910	52.3	1,277	55.3	1,295	44.7	500	30.8
African-American	3,144	31.2	1,740	31.8	421	24.2	723	31.3	829	28.6	548	33.7
Hispanic	1,349	13.4	820	15.0	284	16.3	237	10.2	419	14.5	269	16.5
Asian	217	2.2	94	1.7	96	5.5	29	1.3	58	2.0	41	2.5
Native American	116	1.2	80	1.5	12	0.7	17	0.7	35	1.2	25	1.6
Race Unknown	44	0.4	17	0.3	14	0.8	8	0.4	9	0.3	4	0.2
Nonparticipating Household Head^b ..	573	5.7	564	10.3	4	0.2	19	0.8	251	8.7	239	14.7

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^b This category includes some households with no household head and no adult listed on the file.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-22 Distribution of Participating Households By Presence of a Household Member With Selected Characteristics

Characteristic	Total Households		Households With:									
	Number (000)	Percent	Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a		Countable Earned Income		Countable TANF Income	
			Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	10,070	100.0	5,472	100.0	1,741	100.0	2,310	100.0	2,896	100.0	1,626	100.0
Citizenship												
U. S. Born Citizen	9,455	93.9	5,402	98.7	1,334	76.6	2,234	96.7	2,830	97.7	1,594	98.0
Naturalized Citizen	494	4.9	186	3.4	249	14.3	70	3.0	117	4.0	63	3.9
Refugee	94	0.9	49	0.9	28	1.6	10	0.4	31	1.1	24	1.5
Other Noncitizen	533	5.3	307	5.6	177	10.1	69	3.0	188	6.5	86	5.3
Unknown	12	0.1	5	0.1	3	0.2	2	0.1	5	0.2	2	0.1
Citizen Children Living with Participating Noncitizen Adults	280	2.8	280	5.1	14	0.8	36	1.6	163	5.6	79	4.9
Citizen Children Living with Nonparticipating Noncitizen Adults	445	4.4	445	8.1	2	0.1	14	0.6	251	8.7	167	10.3

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-23. Gender and Food Stamp Benefits of Participants by Selected Demographic Characteristic

Participant Characteristic	Total Participants		Female Participants		Male Participants		Pro-rated Benefits ^b	
	Number (000)	Percent ^a	Number (000)	Percent ^a	Number (000)	Percent ^a	Dollars (000)	Percent
Total	23,486	100.0	13,809	58.8	9,668	41.2	1,978,371	100.0
Citizenship								
U. S. Born Citizen	21,954	93.5	12,847	54.7	9,105	38.8	1,852,625	93.6
Naturalized Citizen	608	2.6	398	1.7	209	0.9	49,246	2.5
Refugee	216	0.9	117	0.5	99	0.4	17,144	0.9
Other Noncitizen	693	3.0	440	1.9	253	1.1	58,281	2.9
Unknown	15	0.1	7	0.0	3	0.0	1,075	0.1
Citizen Children Living with Noncitizen Adults^c	1,507	6.4	759	3.2	748	3.2	131,428	6.6
Nonelderly, Nondisabled, Childless Adults^d	881	3.8	405	1.7	476	2.0	100,862	5.1
Age								
Child	11,797	50.2	5,852	24.9	5,944	25.3	995,697	50.3
Preschool (4 or Less)	3,967	16.9	1,976	8.4	1,990	8.5	358,124	18.1
School Age (5-17)	7,830	33.3	3,875	16.5	3,953	16.8	637,574	32.2
Nonelderly Adult	9,765	41.6	6,643	28.3	3,119	13.3	861,313	43.5
18-35	5,134	21.9	3,792	16.1	1,340	5.7	458,770	23.2
36-59	4,631	19.7	2,851	12.1	1,778	7.6	402,543	20.3
Elderly Individual (60 or More)	1,919	8.2	1,313	5.6	605	2.6	121,088	6.1
Unknown Age	4	0.0	1	0.0	1	0.0	273	0.0
Race								
White	10,148	43.2	5,886	25.1	4,261	18.1	832,125	42.1
African-American	7,773	33.1	4,737	20.2	3,034	12.9	672,239	34.0
Hispanic	4,507	19.2	2,602	11.1	1,905	8.1	380,674	19.2
Asian	586	2.5	330	1.4	256	1.1	51,861	2.6
Native American	359	1.5	198	0.8	161	0.7	31,693	1.6
Unknown Race	113	0.5	55	0.2	52	0.2	9,779	0.5

^a Percent of all participants.

^b Pro-rated benefits equal the benefits paid to households multiplied by the ratio of participants with selected characteristic to total household size.

^c Noncitizens may be inside or outside the food stamp unit.

^d These participants, age 18-49, are subject to work registration and, with some exceptions (for example, those in waiver areas or receiving state exemptions), must meet work requirements or face time limits on benefit receipt.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-24. Distribution of Participants by Thrifty Food Plan Sex-Age Groups and Household Size

Participant Characteristic	Household Size								
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+
Total	23,486	4,228	4,139	4,944	4,504	2,915	1,568	641	546
Children Under Age 12									
0 - 2 years	2,363	77	492	645	547	315	163	66	58
3 - 5 years	2,345	47	358	629	597	371	203	77	63
6 - 8 years	2,005	21	237	499	532	360	208	80	68
9 - 11 years	1,937	17	196	460	498	380	200	95	92
Females	13,809	2,476	2,676	3,017	2,580	1,584	842	350	284
0 - 2 years	1,180	37	249	314	271	158	83	36	32
3 - 5 years	1,158	25	174	309	302	177	101	38	32
6 - 8 years	997	9	113	255	256	181	106	42	35
9 - 11 years	926	7	97	218	239	180	94	52	39
12 - 14 years	880	11	101	198	226	159	101	43	41
15 - 19 years	1,049	53	214	251	211	150	89	42	40
20 - 50 years	5,544	861	1,307	1,374	1,032	556	257	92	64
51+ years	2,073	1,472	420	98	42	23	11	5	2
Males	9,668	1,752	1,460	1,925	1,923	1,331	723	291	262
0 - 2 years	1,182	39	243	330	275	157	81	30	26
3 - 5 years	1,187	22	184	320	295	193	103	39	31
6 - 8 years	1,008	12	124	244	276	179	102	38	33
9 - 11 years	1,011	9	99	242	259	200	105	43	53
12 - 14 years	883	11	105	203	216	170	100	42	36
15 - 19 years	898	26	150	214	197	144	85	43	38
20 - 50 years	2,396	963	247	315	368	265	141	53	43
51+ years	1,102	669	306	56	35	22	7	3	2

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table A-25. Comparison of Participating Households With Key Food Stamp Household Characteristics for Fiscal Years 1989 to 2004^a

Time Period	Total Households (000)	Percentage of Households With:									
		Zero Gross Income	Zero Net Income ^b	Minimum Benefit	Elderly People	Children	Disabled People ^c	AFDC/TANF	Earnings	SSI	Any Noncitizen
Fiscal Year 1989	7,217	7.1	18.3	7.5	19.3	60.4	9.1	41.9	19.6	20.6	9.8
Fiscal Year 1990	7,811	7.4	19.3	5.0	18.1	60.3	8.9	42.0	19.0	19.6	10.3
Fiscal Year 1991	8,863	8.3	20.5	4.1	16.5	60.4	9.0	40.5	19.8	18.6	11.8
Fiscal Year 1992	10,059	9.6	21.9	3.6	15.4	62.2	9.5	39.5	20.2	18.4	10.4
Fiscal Year 1993	10,791	9.7	23.7	4.0	15.5	62.1	10.7	39.4	20.6	19.4	11.6
Fiscal Year 1994	11,091	10.2	23.8	4.5	15.8	61.1	12.5	38.1	21.4	21.4	10.7
Fiscal Year 1995	10,883	9.7	25.0	4.3	16.0	59.7	18.9	38.3	21.4	22.6	10.7
Fiscal Year 1996	10,552	10.2	24.9	4.5	16.2	59.5	20.2	36.6	22.5	24.1	10.5
Fiscal Year 1997	9,452	9.2	22.7	6.6	17.6	58.3	22.3	34.6	24.2	26.5	8.4
Fiscal Year 1998	8,246	8.8	20.8	8.3	18.2	58.3	24.4	31.4	26.3	28.1	4.3
Fiscal Year 1999	7,670	8.5	20.6	9.7	20.1	55.7	26.4	27.3	26.8	30.2	6.0
Fiscal Year 2000	7,335	8.4	20.1	10.9	21.0	53.9	27.5	25.8	27.2	31.7	6.4
Fiscal Year 2001	7,450	9.4	22.2	11.2	20.4	53.6	27.7	23.1	27.0	31.8	5.4
Fiscal Year 2002	8,201	10.5	24.3	10.7	18.7	54.1	27.0	20.9	28.0	29.5	5.2
Fiscal Year 2003	8,971	11.7	25.8	8.4	18.0	54.7	23.3	17.0	28.2	28.1	5.5
Fiscal Year 2004	10,070	13.0	29.4	6.1	17.3	54.3	22.9	16.1	28.8	26.9	6.2

^a Fiscal year analysis files were not developed for the years prior to 1989.

^b Beginning in 2004, net income is not calculated for MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

^c The substantial increase in 1995 and decrease in 2003 are due in part to the changes in definition of a disabled household. Prior to 1995, disabled households were defined as households with SSI but no members over age 59. In 1995, that definition changed to households with at least one member under age 65 who received SSI, or at least one member age 18 to 61 who received Social Security, veterans benefits, or other government benefits as a result of a disability. Due to changes in the FSPQC data in 2003, the definition of a disabled household changed again to households either with SSI income or a medical expense deduction and without an elderly person, and households containing a nonelderly adult who does not appear to be working and who is receiving Social Security, Veteran's benefits, or Worker's compensation.

Note: Beginning with 2003, the weighting of the FSPQC data reflects adjustments to FNS' administrative counts to account for receipt of benefits in error or disaster assistance. Thus, any differences in levels of participation between 2003 and prior years will include both the true difference and the impact of the adjustments.

Source: Fiscal Year 1989 to 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control samples.

Table A-26. Comparison of Average Nominal and Real Values of Key Food Stamp Household Characteristics for Fiscal Years 1989 to 2004

Time Period	Average Values											Household Size (Persons)
	Gross Income (Dollars)		Net Income (Dollars) ^a		Total Deduction (Dollars) ^b		Countable Resources (Dollars)		Food Stamp Benefit (Dollars)		Gross Income as a Percentage of Poverty Guidelines (Percent)	
	Nominal Value	Real Value ^c	Nominal Value	Real Value ^c	Nominal Value	Real Value ^c	Nominal Value	Real Value ^c	Nominal Value	Real Value ^d		
Fiscal Year 1989	442	674	247	377	216	330	79	120	132	203	60	2.6
Fiscal Year 1990	453	655	251	363	225	326	79	114	150	219	59	2.6
Fiscal Year 1991	464	644	253	351	235	326	78	108	162	227	58	2.6
Fiscal Year 1992	478	644	258	347	250	337	78	105	170	231	57	2.6
Fiscal Year 1993	490	641	258	338	262	343	77	101	170	224	56	2.6
Fiscal Year 1994	507	646	268	342	272	347	81	104	168	217	57	2.5
Fiscal Year 1995	514	638	265	329	283	351	83	103	172	216	56	2.5
Fiscal Year 1996	528	636	275	331	287	346	93	112	174	212	57	2.5
Fiscal Year 1997	558	657	299	352	291	343	92	108	169	201	58	2.4
Fiscal Year 1998	584	677	321	372	294	341	118	137	165	193	60	2.4
Fiscal Year 1999	603	684	338	383	299	339	142	161	162	186	62	2.4
Fiscal Year 2000	620	680	355	389	298	327	156	172	158	175	63	2.3
Fiscal Year 2001	624	665	353	377	311	332	148	158	163	175	62	2.3
Fiscal Year 2002	633	664	355	373	324	340	134	141	173	184	61	2.3
Fiscal Year 2003	640	657	348	357	343	352	154	158	185	192	60	2.3
Fiscal Year 2004	643	643	321	321	381	381	143	143	196	196	59	2.3

^aBeginning in 2004, net income is not calculated for MFIP households or SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas.

^b Some of the change in average total deductions and average net income between 2003 to 2004 may be attributable to two changes in the FSPQC database development process. First, we revised the way certain deductions are calculated to correct for inconsistencies and data entry errors. Second, since deductions are not used in their benefit determination, SSI-CAP participants in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from the average total deduction calculation beginning in 2004.

^c Real values are in constant 2004 dollars adjusted by changes in the CPI-U for all items.

^d Real values are in constant 2004 dollars adjusted by changes in the CPI-U for food at home.

Note: Beginning with 2003, the weighting of the FSPQC data reflects adjustments to FNS' administrative counts to account for receipt of benefits in error or disaster assistance. Thus, any differences in levels of participation between 2003 and prior years will include both the true difference and the impact of the adjustments.

Source of CPI-U values: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Source of nominal values: Fiscal Year 1989 to 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control samples.

Table A-27. Comparison of Number of Food Stamp Participants by Gender and Age for Fiscal Years 1989 to 2004

	Total Participants ^a (000)	Female Participants (000)				Male Participants (000)			
		0-17	18-59	60+	Total ^a	0-17	18-59	60+	Total ^a
Fiscal Year 1989	18,956	4,681	5,359	1,132	11,334	4,761	2,262	429	7,612
Fiscal Year 1990	20,440	4,998	5,802	1,139	12,169	5,141	2,442	435	8,265
Fiscal Year 1991	22,988	5,952	6,556	1,171	13,679	6,008	2,840	452	9,300
Fiscal Year 1992	25,775	6,618	7,348	1,235	15,204	6,746	3,350	468	10,566
Fiscal Year 1993	27,595	7,080	7,855	1,334	16,276	7,131	3,643	536	11,316
Fiscal Year 1994	28,009	7,102	7,949	1,389	16,453	7,305	3,666	566	11,552
Fiscal Year 1995	26,955	6,927	7,714	1,369	16,025	6,952	3,403	554	10,926
Fiscal Year 1996	25,926	6,573	7,427	1,354	15,373	6,639	3,355	541	10,549
Fiscal Year 1997	23,117	5,950	6,588	1,328	13,880	5,918	2,796	506	9,233
Fiscal Year 1998	19,969	5,258	5,505	1,197	11,967	5,258	2,236	430	7,926
Fiscal Year 1999	18,149	4,654	5,006	1,217	10,878	4,676	2,066	482	7,226
Fiscal Year 2000	17,091	4,313	4,667	1,216	10,198	4,451	1,954	485	6,891
Fiscal Year 2001	17,297	4,404	4,751	1,189	10,347	4,437	2,037	471	6,949
Fiscal Year 2002	19,041	4,821	5,260	1,187	11,269	4,891	2,375	501	7,769
Fiscal Year 2003	20,934	5,269	5,813	1,243	12,327	5,359	2,700	544	8,605
Fiscal Year 2004	23,486	5,852	6,643	1,313	13,809	5,944	3,119	605	9,668

^aTotal participants may not equal the sum of male and female participants if there are persons whose sex was not coded on the file.

Note: Beginning with 2003, the weighting of the FSPQC data reflects adjustments to FNS' administrative counts to account for receipt of benefits in error or disaster assistance. Thus, any differences in levels of participation between 2003 and prior years will include both the true difference and the impact of the adjustments.

Source: Fiscal Year 1989 to 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control samples.

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APPENDIX B

DETAILED TABLES OF FOOD STAMP HOUSEHOLDS BY STATE

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Table B-1. Distribution of Participating Households, Individuals, and Benefits by State

State	Food Stamp Households		Participants in Households		Monthly Food Stamp Benefits	
	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Dollars (000)	Percent
Total^a	10,070	100.0	23,486	100.0	1,978,371	100.0
Alabama	192	1.9	489	2.1	39,829	2.0
Alaska	17	0.2	52	0.2	5,641	0.3
Arizona	200	2.0	521	2.2	46,825	2.4
Arkansas	137	1.4	334	1.4	27,638	1.4
California	723	7.2	1,876	8.0	156,645	7.9
Colorado	103	1.0	238	1.0	20,900	1.1
Connecticut	100	1.0	201	0.9	17,100	0.9
Delaware	23	0.2	56	0.2	4,407	0.2
District of Columbia	41	0.4	85	0.4	7,689	0.4
Florida	563	5.6	1,177	5.0	98,346	5.0
Georgia	344	3.4	823	3.5	73,259	3.7
Guam	7	0.1	25	0.1	3,914	0.2
Hawaii	48	0.5	97	0.4	12,106	0.6
Idaho	35	0.3	87	0.4	7,201	0.4
Illinois	467	4.6	1,080	4.6	96,522	4.9
Indiana	219	2.2	519	2.2	45,417	2.3
Iowa	76	0.8	176	0.7	14,585	0.7
Kansas	72	0.7	164	0.7	13,162	0.7
Kentucky	226	2.2	540	2.3	44,549	2.3
Louisiana	267	2.7	692	2.9	61,390	3.1
Maine	70	0.7	137	0.6	10,218	0.5
Maryland	122	1.2	271	1.2	22,861	1.2
Massachusetts	153	1.5	348	1.5	26,549	1.3
Michigan	410	4.1	947	4.0	74,643	3.8
Minnesota	113	1.1	232	1.0	18,922	1.0
Mississippi	150	1.5	378	1.6	29,094	1.5
Missouri	269	2.7	614	2.6	52,752	2.7
Montana	32	0.3	79	0.3	6,852	0.3
Nebraska	47	0.5	115	0.5	9,016	0.5
Nevada	52	0.5	118	0.5	9,745	0.5
New Hampshire	23	0.2	51	0.2	3,907	0.2
New Jersey	172	1.7	365	1.6	31,140	1.6
New Mexico	84	0.8	222	0.9	18,201	0.9
New York	793	7.9	1,549	6.6	141,158	7.1
North Carolina	315	3.1	751	3.2	63,206	3.2
North Dakota	18	0.2	41	0.2	3,412	0.2
Ohio	409	4.1	944	4.0	79,023	4.0
Oklahoma	161	1.6	382	1.6	29,641	1.5
Oregon	206	2.0	421	1.8	35,843	1.8
Pennsylvania	426	4.2	976	4.2	79,614	4.0
Rhode Island	34	0.3	77	0.3	5,869	0.3
South Carolina	203	2.0	501	2.1	41,107	2.1
South Dakota	21	0.2	55	0.2	4,686	0.2
Tennessee	343	3.4	767	3.3	64,403	3.3
Texas	856	8.5	2,237	9.5	186,091	9.4
Utah	48	0.5	125	0.5	10,344	0.5
Vermont	21	0.2	41	0.2	3,231	0.2
Virgin Islands	4	0.0	14	0.1	1,672	0.1
Virginia	194	1.9	448	1.9	34,543	1.7
Washington	213	2.1	439	1.9	36,927	1.9
West Virginia	107	1.1	256	1.1	20,038	1.0
Wisconsin	129	1.3	325	1.4	24,374	1.2
Wyoming	10	0.1	27	0.1	2,167	0.1

^a Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-2. Average Values of Selected Characteristics by State

State	Average Values						
	Gross Countable Income (Dollars)	Net Countable Income (Dollars) ^a	Total Deduction (Dollars) ^b	Countable Resources (Dollars)	Food Stamp Benefit (Dollars)	Household Size (Persons)	Certification Period (Months)
Total	643	321	381	143	196	2.3	10.5
Alabama	640	352	348	55	208	2.6	11.0
Alaska	983	579	486	130	323	3.0	6.9
Arizona	607	279	399	113	234	2.6	9.3
Arkansas	584	333	321	98	201	2.4	14.0
California	665	339	373	82	217	2.6	11.8
Colorado	611	282	406	195	203	2.3	8.6
Connecticut	595	287	379	96	170	2.0	12.1
Delaware	748	377	432	0	191	2.4	7.6
District of Columbia	423	246	231	12	186	2.1	9.0
Florida	612	297	376	256	175	2.1	8.2
Georgia	577	280	363	124	213	2.4	7.4
Guam	498	221	417	127	537	3.5	8.9
Hawaii	704	414	326	204	254	2.0	11.6
Idaho	670	335	410	173	206	2.5	8.4
Illinois	549	267	359	92	207	2.3	11.1
Indiana	642	289	419	165	208	2.4	8.4
Iowa	633	324	371	256	193	2.3	11.0
Kansas	649	340	358	137	182	2.3	13.1
Kentucky	616	334	344	153	197	2.4	11.1
Louisiana	631	292	397	105	230	2.6	13.4
Maine	733	347	432	315	146	2.0	10.3
Maryland	606	307	360	67	187	2.2	8.3
Massachusetts	743	378	418	169	173	2.3	10.4
Michigan	750	359	450	322	182	2.3	11.7
Minnesota	593	364	232	189	168	2.1	11.7
Mississippi	649	391	314	61	194	2.5	12.3
Missouri	590	296	371	97	196	2.3	10.9
Montana	621	297	396	448	212	2.4	11.9
Nebraska	672	376	351	182	192	2.5	8.3
Nevada	626	324	361	78	187	2.3	7.8
New Hampshire	755	371	445	216	170	2.2	8.2
New Jersey	642	288	393	65	181	2.1	8.5
New Mexico	651	356	357	128	217	2.6	9.6
New York	706	286	484	123	178	2.0	15.4
North Carolina	622	320	367	118	201	2.4	7.3
North Dakota	730	317	469	2	187	2.3	8.4
Ohio	650	313	397	151	193	2.3	7.8
Oklahoma	644	373	334	122	184	2.4	12.0
Oregon	623	292	410	35	174	2.0	8.8
Pennsylvania	674	328	398	233	187	2.3	11.7
Rhode Island	706	372	365	68	174	2.3	11.2
South Carolina	586	337	312	5	202	2.5	13.5
South Dakota	651	320	424	171	225	2.6	14.5
Tennessee	578	313	322	96	188	2.2	7.7
Texas	647	347	374	202	217	2.6	8.6
Utah	662	342	392	135	215	2.6	6.5
Vermont	729	331	450	434	153	2.0	9.3
Virgin Islands	598	356	271	174	377	3.2	7.3
Virginia	650	367	329	125	178	2.3	11.8
Washington	658	290	417	61	173	2.1	9.1
West Virginia	637	366	324	198	187	2.4	11.6
Wisconsin	748	419	393	102	188	2.5	9.0
Wyoming	740	373	417	282	213	2.7	5.8

^a Because net income is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 MFIP households and 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this column.

^b Because deductions are not used in their benefit determination, 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this column.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-3. Distribution of Participating Households by Poverty Status and by State

State	Number (000)	Gross Countable Income as a Percentage of the Poverty Guideline					
		50% or Less		51% - 100%		101% or More	
		Number (000)	Row Percent	Number (000)	Row Percent	Number (000)	Row Percent
Total^a	10,070	3,978	39.5	4,874	48.4	1,219	12.1
Alabama	192	76	39.8	95	49.7	20	10.5
Alaska	17	6	34.9	8	44.4	4	20.8
Arizona	200	99	49.4	78	39.1	23	11.5
Arkansas	137	61	44.6	65	47.2	11	8.1
California	723	296	41.0	371	51.3	56	7.8
Colorado	103	43	41.6	49	47.4	11	11.0
Connecticut	100	43	42.4	43	43.1	15	14.5
Delaware	23	9	37.1	10	43.4	4	19.5
District of Columbia	41	27	64.9	12	29.6	2	5.5
Florida	563	200	35.5	302	53.6	61	10.9
Georgia	344	158	45.8	151	43.7	36	10.4
Guam	7	5	67.6	2	26.0	0	6.4
Hawaii	48	18	38.2	26	54.1	4	7.7
Idaho	35	12	34.6	19	54.9	4	10.5
Illinois	467	210	45.0	214	45.8	43	9.2
Indiana	219	88	40.1	100	45.5	31	14.4
Iowa	76	32	42.0	35	46.0	9	12.0
Kansas	72	26	35.9	38	52.4	8	11.7
Kentucky	226	90	39.8	114	50.5	22	9.7
Louisiana	267	109	40.9	133	49.7	25	9.4
Maine	70	16	23.2	39	55.7	15	21.1
Maryland	122	56	45.4	53	43.1	14	11.5
Massachusetts	153	52	34.0	76	49.4	26	16.7
Michigan	410	136	33.1	197	48.1	77	18.9
Minnesota	113	50	44.5	53	47.1	9	8.3
Mississippi	150	55	36.8	83	55.2	12	8.0
Missouri	269	123	45.6	113	41.9	34	12.5
Montana	32	14	42.9	15	45.1	4	12.0
Nebraska	47	18	38.7	22	46.4	7	14.9
Nevada	52	20	37.9	26	50.0	6	12.0
New Hampshire	23	6	24.4	13	56.1	4	19.5
New Jersey	172	68	39.4	86	50.1	18	10.5
New Mexico	84	38	45.9	37	44.6	8	9.5
New York	793	216	27.2	459	57.8	119	14.9
North Carolina	315	128	40.5	144	45.8	43	13.7
North Dakota	18	6	32.4	9	49.1	3	18.5
Ohio	409	150	36.7	206	50.4	53	13.0
Oklahoma	161	62	38.4	79	49.0	20	12.6
Oregon	206	88	42.8	78	38.0	40	19.2
Pennsylvania	426	154	36.2	225	52.9	46	10.9
Rhode Island	34	13	38.7	17	49.9	4	11.4
South Carolina	203	95	46.6	89	43.6	20	9.8
South Dakota	21	9	42.4	9	45.2	3	12.5
Tennessee	343	149	43.4	151	44.1	43	12.5
Texas	856	380	44.5	368	43.0	108	12.6
Utah	48	22	46.0	20	41.9	6	12.2
Vermont	21	5	23.6	12	57.3	4	19.1
Virgin Islands	4	3	64.1	1	29.2	0	6.7
Virginia	194	69	35.4	105	54.2	20	10.4
Washington	213	83	38.7	105	49.1	26	12.2
West Virginia	107	39	36.4	60	56.4	8	7.2
Wisconsin	129	46	35.5	56	43.0	28	21.5
Wyoming	10	3	33.0	5	53.1	1	13.9

^a Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-4. Distribution of Participating Households by Shelter-Related Characteristics and by State

State	Households With Shelter Deduction		Households at the Shelter Cap		Average Monthly Shelter Expense (Dollars)	Average Monthly Shelter Expense Among Households With Expense (Dollars)	Average Shelter Deduction ^a (Dollars)
	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent			
Total^b	6,861	68.1	1,269	12.6	405	483	254
Alabama	129	67.3	10	5.2	326	386	186
Alaska	10	58.6	1	4.6	444	517	273
Arizona	143	71.4	35	17.6	419	507	262
Arkansas	81	58.8	9	6.5	309	392	203
California	535	74.0	137	18.9	433	487	249
Colorado	78	76.1	17	16.7	456	516	265
Connecticut	73	72.7	16	16.1	457	538	287
Delaware	17	73.1	4	16.4	475	555	273
District of Columbia	17	41.0	2	3.9	199	320	188
Florida	425	75.6	66	11.7	424	485	250
Georgia	236	68.5	38	11.0	364	462	235
Guam	3	47.4	0	2.1	141	195	131
Hawaii	22	46.2	1	2.3	265	352	187
Idaho	27	76.8	7	18.8	437	497	243
Illinois	322	69.1	49	10.4	375	484	242
Indiana	164	75.2	34	15.7	452	540	276
Iowa	56	73.5	11	13.9	404	465	236
Kansas	54	74.9	8	10.7	388	431	215
Kentucky	162	71.6	17	7.6	359	409	214
Louisiana	186	69.6	30	11.1	393	494	256
Maine	57	81.8	9	12.9	521	588	284
Maryland	86	70.6	15	12.0	386	453	232
Massachusetts	117	76.1	23	15.2	542	585	309
Michigan	308	75.2	73	17.8	529	609	308
Minnesota	47	41.9	7	5.9	246	453	234
Mississippi	76	50.6	7	4.6	307	369	189
Missouri	189	70.0	35	13.0	373	445	235
Montana	24	74.8	5	15.3	415	465	251
Nebraska	33	70.7	5	10.9	384	422	211
Nevada	35	67.6	5	9.6	383	471	241
New Hampshire	18	77.5	4	18.8	574	612	313
New Jersey	125	73.1	22	12.8	442	514	281
New Mexico	54	64.4	10	12.4	352	414	222
New York	472	59.5	148	18.6	494	598	377
North Carolina	232	73.5	32	10.1	387	457	221
North Dakota	14	77.2	3	17.1	471	516	285
Ohio	287	70.3	52	12.7	429	508	275
Oklahoma	101	62.5	13	8.2	340	399	202
Oregon	145	70.6	39	18.8	437	563	271
Pennsylvania	333	78.2	63	14.9	470	508	269
Rhode Island	21	62.6	4	13.0	456	516	307
South Carolina	98	48.2	10	4.9	274	353	196
South Dakota	15	74.1	4	20.8	426	488	267
Tennessee	210	61.2	29	8.6	326	416	214
Texas	498	58.1	71	8.3	332	412	204
Utah	34	70.9	9	17.8	430	508	245
Vermont	18	84.3	4	17.4	564	609	310
Virgin Islands	2	38.5	0	4.0	165	219	115
Virginia	123	63.1	16	8.0	336	394	201
Washington	179	83.8	36	16.7	488	540	270
West Virginia	73	67.9	7	6.7	351	398	201
Wisconsin	88	68.3	18	14.3	443	519	247
Wyoming	8	74.6	1	12.0	443	502	251

^a Over households with a shelter deduction.

^b Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-5. Distribution of Participating Households by Household Composition and by State

State	Households With:									
	Children		Elderly Individuals		Disabled Nonelderly Individuals ^a		Single Adults with Children		Nonelderly, Nondisabled, Childless Adults ^b	
	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total^c	5,472	54.3	1,741	17.3	2,310	22.9	3,450	34.3	804	8.0
Alabama	118	61.3	26	13.7	56	29.4	88	46.0	10	5.4
Alaska	11	60.6	2	11.1	3	16.4	5	29.9	1	5.8
Arizona	132	65.9	21	10.6	35	17.8	65	32.7	13	6.7
Arkansas	75	54.7	22	15.8	34	24.9	49	35.5	59	42.7
California	569	78.7	26	3.6	10	1.3	249	34.4	40	5.5
Colorado	57	55.5	16	15.8	21	20.7	37	36.2	5	4.8
Connecticut	43	42.8	18	18.3	26	26.2	33	33.0	12	12.1
Delaware	13	58.5	3	13.9	6	25.6	10	43.4	1	3.7
District of Columbia	18	43.6	6	14.6	8	18.3	15	36.8	9	22.9
Florida	249	44.2	162	28.7	132	23.5	144	25.5	47	8.3
Georgia	201	58.3	52	15.2	68	19.6	153	44.4	21	6.0
Guam	6	77.7	1	16.6	0	4.8	3	35.4	0	0.7
Hawaii	18	38.6	13	26.9	10	21.6	11	22.4	3	5.9
Idaho	21	58.9	5	13.3	9	26.6	11	31.6	1	4.0
Illinois	228	48.9	80	17.1	110	23.6	155	33.1	80	17.1
Indiana	121	55.4	29	13.3	61	27.8	82	37.7	15	6.7
Iowa	41	54.8	10	13.5	19	25.3	26	34.9	3	3.7
Kansas	36	49.8	11	14.6	22	30.0	22	30.6	3	3.7
Kentucky	122	53.9	39	17.1	73	32.3	73	32.3	15	6.8
Louisiana	158	59.3	37	13.9	64	24.0	117	43.7	43	16.2
Maine	27	38.2	16	23.0	24	33.9	15	21.6	8	11.7
Maryland	61	50.2	20	16.6	30	24.2	49	39.6	3	2.1
Massachusetts	84	55.1	22	14.6	51	33.2	67	43.8	6	3.6
Michigan	213	51.9	59	14.5	119	29.0	148	36.0	13	3.1
Minnesota	57	50.3	17	15.2	29	25.6	32	28.6	7	5.8
Mississippi	88	58.9	28	18.9	45	30.0	62	41.3	8	5.2
Missouri	145	53.8	39	14.6	62	22.9	100	37.0	21	7.8
Montana	18	54.3	5	14.4	8	23.4	10	30.4	5	15.3
Nebraska	27	56.8	7	14.2	12	24.9	17	36.4	3	5.6
Nevada	26	49.1	12	22.8	13	25.9	15	29.3	2	3.4
New Hampshire	12	50.3	4	16.0	8	36.3	9	37.0	1	2.3
New Jersey	81	47.2	40	23.1	38	22.2	55	31.8	10	5.7
New Mexico	54	64.6	12	14.0	14	16.9	33	38.8	7	7.8
New York	311	39.2	221	27.9	231	29.1	199	25.1	67	8.4
North Carolina	178	56.5	60	19.1	76	24.3	126	40.1	16	5.2
North Dakota	9	49.0	4	19.3	4	23.9	5	29.3	1	6.7
Ohio	208	50.9	67	16.4	123	30.1	141	34.4	22	5.5
Oklahoma	89	55.1	28	17.1	38	23.7	55	34.0	2	1.3
Oregon	86	42.0	29	13.9	40	19.6	47	22.9	38	18.6
Pennsylvania	202	47.5	84	19.6	127	29.9	132	31.1	42	9.8
Rhode Island	19	57.5	6	17.3	9	26.2	15	43.7	2	6.3
South Carolina	117	57.4	32	15.8	45	22.2	84	41.5	20	10.0
South Dakota	12	59.8	3	16.6	5	22.1	8	36.1	2	7.4
Tennessee	171	49.9	70	20.3	72	20.9	118	34.4	29	8.3
Texas	561	65.6	156	18.3	126	14.7	321	37.5	36	4.2
Utah	28	58.3	6	11.7	9	18.7	16	33.7	2	4.5
Vermont	8	39.5	5	24.2	6	29.7	6	27.6	1	3.6
Virgin Islands	3	68.3	1	19.7	0	5.6	2	46.6	0	2.2
Virginia	106	54.8	43	22.1	48	24.8	79	40.7	10	5.2
Washington	93	43.7	31	14.4	61	28.4	52	24.6	17	7.8
West Virginia	56	52.2	18	16.7	39	36.2	28	26.5	11	10.6
Wisconsin	78	60.5	18	13.9	27	21.0	54	41.8	13	10.2
Wyoming	6	62.2	1	11.7	3	26.3	4	40.6	0	4.6

^a Due to changes in the FSPQC data, the definition of disabled changed in 2003. Beginning with the 2003 report, we are able to identify households that contain a disabled person. In previous reports, we had additional information that helped to identify which household member was disabled.

^b These participants, age 18-49, are subject to work registration and, with some exceptions (for example, those in waiver areas or receiving state exemptions), must meet work requirements or face time limits on benefit receipt.

^c Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-6. Distribution of Participating Households by Selected Countable Income Sources and by State

State	Households With Countable:									
	TANF ^a		GA		SSI		Social Security		Earned Income	
	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total^b	1,626	16.1	576	5.7	2,713	26.9	2,313	23.0	2,896	28.8
Alabama	12	6.3	1	0.4	61	31.6	52	26.9	59	30.8
Alaska	4	23.4	4	24.2	2	13.4	3	16.5	6	35.6
Arizona	33	16.3	9	4.6	35	17.6	30	15.0	72	36.0
Arkansas	7	5.2	0	0.2	36	25.9	34	25.1	39	28.8
California	420	58.1	70	9.7	—	—	29	4.0	210	29.0
Colorado	3	2.7	24	23.7	22	21.6	24	23.4	33	32.5
Connecticut	18	17.5	14	13.8	29	28.8	26	26.3	19	18.7
Delaware	3	14.7	2	7.3	5	22.3	5	23.3	8	34.5
District of Columbia	13	32.6	2	4.0	8	18.9	7	17.7	4	8.6
Florida	41	7.2	10	1.8	187	33.3	167	29.6	138	24.6
Georgia	41	12.0	1	0.3	82	23.8	78	22.5	108	31.2
Guam	1	14.5	1	9.3	0	0.3	1	12.2	3	34.5
Hawaii	9	19.7	5	11.3	14	29.9	11	23.7	13	26.6
Idaho	1	2.2	6	17.4	10	27.7	9	25.3	13	36.6
Illinois	13	2.8	49	10.5	144	30.8	87	18.6	130	27.9
Indiana	43	19.7	0	0.1	52	23.8	59	27.1	68	30.9
Iowa	18	23.7	0	0.2	18	24.0	19	24.5	25	32.6
Kansas	14	18.7	4	5.4	21	29.8	19	26.7	21	29.0
Kentucky	29	13.0	0	0.1	84	37.3	60	26.3	60	26.4
Louisiana	11	4.2	3	1.0	70	26.2	61	23.0	100	37.3
Maine	11	15.4	1	1.0	22	32.1	28	40.5	16	23.0
Maryland	20	16.3	14	11.4	33	27.3	25	20.6	27	21.9
Massachusetts	44	29.0	12	7.5	56	36.3	37	24.0	29	18.9
Michigan	72	17.5	4	1.1	119	28.9	100	24.3	140	34.2
Minnesota	30	26.6	8	6.9	36	32.3	24	21.0	25	22.6
Mississippi	17	11.2	0	0.1	56	37.2	48	31.8	44	29.1
Missouri	44	16.3	1	0.5	59	22.0	65	24.0	83	30.6
Montana	5	14.0	0	0.5	7	22.4	8	24.4	11	32.8
Nebraska	9	19.6	3	6.1	10	21.1	13	27.2	15	31.4
Nevada	6	12.1	0	0.3	16	29.9	16	30.0	13	24.2
New Hampshire	4	17.2	5	21.4	6	27.8	8	33.5	5	21.9
New Jersey	34	19.9	29	16.9	55	31.9	40	23.1	33	19.4
New Mexico	16	19.7	2	2.2	18	20.9	16	19.1	32	37.6
New York	101	12.7	147	18.5	340	42.8	202	25.5	142	17.9
North Carolina	24	7.7	3	1.0	81	25.9	92	29.3	89	28.2
North Dakota	2	11.8	0	1.7	4	23.9	6	30.9	7	40.3
Ohio	63	15.3	12	2.8	135	33.1	93	22.8	114	27.8
Oklahoma	8	5.0	30	18.8	41	25.3	41	25.6	51	31.4
Oregon	12	5.9	17	8.1	35	17.2	47	22.8	71	34.7
Pennsylvania	79	18.6	39	9.1	152	35.6	110	25.8	107	25.2
Rhode Island	14	42.0	1	2.2	11	31.7	8	22.7	6	17.4
South Carolina	19	9.1	1	0.4	54	26.6	43	21.0	63	31.1
South Dakota	2	9.4	0	1.3	5	24.4	5	24.2	7	35.8
Tennessee	58	16.8	—	—	76	22.3	100	29.0	101	29.4
Texas	96	11.2	—	—	198	23.1	182	21.3	331	38.6
Utah	7	15.0	2	4.0	9	17.9	9	18.6	17	35.5
Vermont	4	19.1	3	15.3	6	29.0	8	40.1	5	23.7
Virgin Islands	0	6.2	1	14.5	—	—	1	16.0	2	39.7
Virginia	30	15.6	2	1.0	59	30.4	56	28.8	56	28.8
Washington	38	17.9	27	12.6	64	30.0	44	20.6	52	24.3
West Virginia	12	10.8	0	0.1	43	39.9	28	26.0	26	24.2
Wisconsin	9	7.2	7	5.2	24	18.7	29	22.6	48	36.8
Wyoming	1	6.4	—	—	2	22.1	3	26.9	4	41.6

^a This does not include households receiving a noncash benefit or a noncountable cash benefit (e.g. households participating in Minnesota's Family Investment Program who may not receive a cash TANF benefit.)

^b Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

— No sample data in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-7. Average Values of Selected Countable Income Sources by State

State	Average Countable Values ^a				
	TANF ^b	GA	SSI	Social Security	Earned Income
Total	383	251	445	580	851
Alabama	198	136	447	540	863
Alaska	635	305	455	670	1,167
Arizona	301	267	460	590	866
Arkansas	181	140	407	576	849
California	560	253	–	654	786
Colorado	334	205	381	564	845
Connecticut	450	171	444	583	761
Delaware	269	128	473	600	1,080
District of Columbia	385	275	471	548	808
Florida	237	285	431	584	856
Georgia	240	256	394	545	799
Guam	126	166	602	592	983
Hawaii	507	370	452	597	898
Idaho	316	55	375	550	878
Illinois	237	166	501	547	790
Indiana	216	256	434	624	842
Iowa	347	218	393	593	742
Kansas	311	160	420	572	830
Kentucky	229	225	452	569	794
Louisiana	237	242	412	571	798
Maine	416	26	363	626	1,003
Maryland	373	172	466	583	971
Massachusetts	506	295	512	580	926
Michigan	453	243	430	640	921
Minnesota	369	201	474	523	716
Mississippi	146	125	396	550	823
Missouri	253	256	402	601	807
Montana	363	81	373	566	851
Nebraska	341	188	374	623	856
Nevada	293	438	401	583	925
New Hampshire	497	200	418	611	1,011
New Jersey	345	180	477	571	937
New Mexico	332	270	400	564	880
New York	437	389	524	590	842
North Carolina	225	195	410	600	854
North Dakota	362	315	343	579	860
Ohio	329	110	470	572	875
Oklahoma	236	57	405	561	963
Oregon	436	114	401	665	832
Pennsylvania	353	204	465	569	810
Rhode Island	495	187	470	605	917
South Carolina	163	205	432	529	848
South Dakota	338	162	392	561	813
Tennessee	179	–	392	619	760
Texas	168	–	377	520	905
Utah	387	247	400	584	926
Vermont	491	127	395	617	766
Virgin Islands	306	205	–	502	925
Virginia	282	193	411	574	861
Washington	432	294	458	583	900
West Virginia	373	401	463	533	855
Wisconsin	509	477	532	642	937
Wyoming	292	–	397	582	937

^a Average values are over households with income source.

^b This does not include households receiving a noncash benefit or a noncountable cash benefit (e.g. households participating in Minnesota's Family Investment Program who may not receive a cash TANF benefit.)

– No sample data in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-8. Distribution of Participating Households by Earnings-Related Characteristics and by State

State	Households with Earnings			Average Earned Income Deduction (Dollars)	
	Number (000)	Percent	Average Earnings (Dollars)	All Households ^a	Households with Deduction
Total	2,896	28.8	851	50	171
Alabama	59	30.8	863	53	172
Alaska	6	35.6	1,167	83	233
Arizona	72	36.0	866	62	173
Arkansas	39	28.8	849	49	169
California	210	29.0	786	45	157
Colorado	33	32.5	845	55	169
Connecticut	19	18.7	761	28	152
Delaware	8	34.5	1,080	74	216
District of Columbia	4	8.6	808	14	161
Florida	138	24.6	856	42	171
Georgia	108	31.2	799	50	159
Guam	3	34.5	983	68	196
Hawaii	13	26.6	898	48	179
Idaho	13	36.6	878	64	175
Illinois	130	27.9	790	44	158
Indiana	68	30.9	842	52	168
Iowa	25	32.6	742	48	149
Kansas	21	29.0	830	48	166
Kentucky	60	26.4	794	42	159
Louisiana	100	37.3	798	59	159
Maine	16	23.0	1,003	46	200
Maryland	27	21.9	971	42	194
Massachusetts	29	18.9	926	35	185
Michigan	140	34.2	921	63	184
Minnesota	25	22.6	716	41	193
Mississippi	44	29.1	823	55	164
Missouri	83	30.6	807	49	161
Montana	11	32.8	851	56	170
Nebraska	15	31.4	856	54	171
Nevada	13	24.2	925	45	185
New Hampshire	5	21.9	1,011	44	204
New Jersey	33	19.4	937	36	187
New Mexico	32	37.6	880	66	176
New York	142	17.9	842	39	171
North Carolina	89	28.2	854	48	171
North Dakota	7	40.3	860	69	173
Ohio	114	27.8	875	48	175
Oklahoma	51	31.4	963	60	192
Oregon	71	34.7	832	58	166
Pennsylvania	107	25.2	810	41	162
Rhode Island	6	17.4	917	32	183
South Carolina	63	31.1	848	58	169
South Dakota	7	35.8	813	58	162
Tennessee	101	29.4	760	45	152
Texas	331	38.6	905	74	181
Utah	17	35.5	926	66	185
Vermont	5	23.7	766	36	155
Virgin Islands	2	39.7	925	73	185
Virginia	56	28.8	861	49	172
Washington	52	24.3	900	53	180
West Virginia	26	24.2	855	41	171
Wisconsin	48	36.8	937	69	188
Wyoming	4	41.6	937	78	188

^a Because the earnings deduction is not used in their benefit determination, 310,069 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, Texas, and Washington are excluded from this column.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-9. Distribution of Entrant Households With and Without Expedited Service by State

State	Total Entrant Households (000)	Entrant Households Eligible For and Receiving Expedited Service		Entrant Households Eligible For But Not Receiving Expedited Service		Entrant Households Not Eligible For Expedited Service	
		Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total^a	564	234	41.4	36	6.4	295	52.2
Alabama	8	1	17.6	0	2.2	6	80.2
Alaska	1	0	28.1	0	10.7	1	61.2
Arizona	11	3	25.7	1	13.4	7	60.9
Arkansas	9	3	33.7	1	11.2	5	55.1
California	31	17	55.5	2	5.1	12	39.4
Colorado	5	2	40.1	1	19.3	2	40.6
Connecticut	5	2	35.5	0	9.0	3	55.6
Delaware	2	1	46.6	0	11.2	1	42.1
District of Columbia	3	2	57.2	0	4.2	1	38.6
Florida	30	11	36.2	1	4.2	18	59.6
Georgia	26	9	33.3	0	1.3	17	65.4
Guam	0	0	45.0	0	9.0	0	46.0
Hawaii	2	0	12.9	1	31.3	1	55.9
Idaho	2	1	39.1	0	6.5	1	54.4
Illinois	22	8	37.9	1	4.3	12	57.8
Indiana	10	4	39.8	1	14.1	5	46.1
Iowa	6	3	45.6	1	14.1	3	40.3
Kansas	3	1	25.6	0	7.7	2	66.7
Kentucky	12	6	48.6	-	-	6	51.4
Louisiana	15	6	39.7	1	4.9	8	55.4
Maine	1	0	30.4	0	8.8	1	60.8
Maryland	7	3	51.0	0	6.7	3	42.3
Massachusetts	10	4	41.7	0	1.7	6	56.6
Michigan	18	9	48.7	1	4.8	8	46.4
Minnesota	4	2	48.2	0	7.9	2	43.9
Mississippi	3	2	59.9	0	5.1	1	34.9
Missouri	18	11	60.9	1	3.0	7	36.1
Montana	2	1	41.7	0	3.0	1	55.4
Nebraska	2	1	33.5	0	8.8	1	57.7
Nevada	4	1	35.3	0	9.9	2	54.9
New Hampshire	1	1	77.6	-	-	0	22.4
New Jersey	6	3	40.5	1	19.1	3	40.4
New Mexico	8	4	48.2	0	4.0	4	47.9
New York	31	16	50.6	3	9.8	12	39.6
North Carolina	20	13	66.4	-	-	7	33.6
North Dakota	1	0	35.8	0	6.3	0	57.9
Ohio	22	7	30.1	2	9.9	13	60.0
Oklahoma	13	7	55.0	1	6.4	5	38.6
Oregon	8	5	59.7	1	7.2	3	33.1
Pennsylvania	20	6	31.6	1	6.1	12	62.4
Rhode Island	1	0	29.0	0	6.8	0	64.2
South Carolina	7	3	37.8	-	-	4	62.2
South Dakota	2	1	36.2	0	6.0	1	57.8
Tennessee	17	7	41.5	2	8.7	9	49.8
Texas	92	24	26.0	8	8.4	60	65.6
Utah	4	3	78.5	0	3.8	1	17.7
Vermont	1	0	36.7	0	19.8	0	43.5
Virgin Islands	0	0	75.6	-	-	0	24.4
Virginia	9	5	50.6	0	2.1	4	47.3
Washington	16	9	59.8	0	1.1	6	39.1
West Virginia	3	2	44.0	-	-	2	56.0
Wisconsin	10	4	42.9	1	9.4	5	47.7
Wyoming	1	1	52.2	-	-	0	47.8

^a Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

- No sample data in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-10. Distribution of Participating Households by Race/Ethnic Origin of Household Head and by State

State	Race/Ethnic Origin of Household Head								Nonparticipating Household Head ^b	
	White		African-American		Hispanic		Other ^a		Number (000)	Percent
	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent		
Total^c	4,627	45.9	3,144	31.2	1,349	13.4	377	3.7	573	5.7
Alabama	75	39.1	113	58.8	1	0.5	1	0.5	2	1.1
Alaska	8	47.8	1	4.3	1	3.0	8	44.1	0	0.8
Arizona	77	38.6	13	6.7	51	25.5	28	13.9	31	15.3
Arkansas	79	57.2	55	40.1	1	1.0	1	0.8	1	0.9
California	140	19.4	113	15.6	193	26.7	46	6.4	230	31.8
Colorado	53	51.4	11	10.6	30	29.1	3	2.7	6	6.1
Connecticut	36	35.5	29	28.5	33	33.3	1	1.5	1	1.2
Delaware	10	41.7	11	47.6	1	5.5	1	3.6	0	1.6
District of Columbia	2	4.6	39	93.4	0	0.7	0	0.5	0	0.8
Florida	190	33.7	167	29.7	165	29.3	6	1.1	35	6.2
Georgia	118	34.3	212	61.7	5	1.4	3	0.8	6	1.8
Guam	0	2.4	-	-	0	0.7	6	81.3	1	15.7
Hawaii	13	26.4	1	2.4	1	1.7	32	66.2	2	3.4
Idaho	28	81.2	0	0.6	3	7.2	1	3.4	3	7.5
Illinois	178	38.2	223	47.8	37	8.0	13	2.8	15	3.2
Indiana	150	68.4	57	26.0	6	2.6	1	0.3	6	2.8
Iowa	61	81.2	8	10.9	2	2.2	3	4.0	1	1.6
Kansas	53	73.4	12	16.8	4	5.0	1	2.0	2	2.8
Kentucky	193	85.5	30	13.1	1	0.4	1	0.4	1	0.6
Louisiana	78	29.2	185	69.3	1	0.5	2	0.7	1	0.3
Maine	67	95.7	1	1.5	0	0.3	1	1.7	1	0.7
Maryland	41	33.8	75	61.2	2	1.6	3	2.6	1	0.8
Massachusetts	82	53.6	23	14.9	36	23.5	7	4.8	5	3.1
Michigan	237	57.7	156	38.0	7	1.8	4	1.1	6	1.4
Minnesota	67	59.4	27	23.6	3	2.5	15	13.2	2	1.4
Mississippi	38	25.6	105	70.0	1	0.6	-	-	6	3.9
Missouri	171	63.4	88	32.7	2	0.6	4	1.3	5	1.9
Montana	24	75.6	0	0.5	0	1.0	7	21.9	0	1.0
Nebraska	31	66.0	10	21.1	3	6.7	2	4.0	1	2.3
Nevada	28	54.3	11	21.5	6	12.2	3	6.0	3	6.0
New Hampshire	21	92.4	1	2.6	1	3.8	0	0.2	0	1.0
New Jersey	46	26.9	66	38.3	45	26.2	6	3.3	9	5.3
New Mexico	19	22.7	2	2.7	46	54.9	12	14.2	5	5.5
New York	283	35.7	224	28.2	209	26.3	48	6.0	30	3.7
North Carolina	133	42.1	159	50.6	3	1.0	8	2.4	12	3.8
North Dakota	13	73.7	0	1.6	0	0.9	4	22.2	0	1.6
Ohio	253	61.9	130	31.8	11	2.7	3	0.6	12	2.9
Oklahoma	109	67.6	31	19.0	4	2.7	15	9.5	2	1.3
Oregon	167	81.0	9	4.4	9	4.6	9	4.6	11	5.4
Pennsylvania	239	56.2	135	31.8	38	9.0	10	2.4	3	0.6
Rhode Island	18	53.0	3	10.0	8	24.4	3	7.9	2	4.7
South Carolina	69	34.1	131	64.3	2	1.1	0	0.2	1	0.3
South Dakota	12	59.0	0	1.4	0	1.0	7	34.9	1	3.7
Tennessee	224	65.2	112	32.8	1	0.3	2	0.5	4	1.1
Texas	214	25.1	200	23.4	345	40.3	13	1.5	84	9.8
Utah	36	74.7	1	2.5	5	10.5	4	7.6	2	4.7
Vermont	19	87.8	0	1.8	0	0.7	2	9.5	0	0.3
Virgin Islands	0	2.5	3	72.4	1	22.8	0	0.3	0	1.9
Virginia	90	46.2	93	48.1	3	1.4	4	2.3	4	2.0
Washington	153	71.9	18	8.6	12	5.8	17	8.2	12	5.6
West Virginia	100	93.7	6	5.2	-	-	0	0.2	1	0.9
Wisconsin	71	55.2	42	32.8	7	5.3	3	2.7	5	4.1
Wyoming	8	75.9	0	2.2	1	8.7	1	11.3	0	2.0

^a Other includes Asian, American Indian and Unknown.

^b This category includes some households with no household head and no adult listed on the file.

^c Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

- No sample data in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-11. Distribution of Participants by Age and by State

State	Preschool Age Child		School Age Child		Nonelderly Adult		Elderly Adult		Unknown Age	
	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total^a	3,967	16.9	7,830	33.3	9,765	41.6	1,919	8.2	4	0.0
Alabama	81	16.6	175	35.8	205	41.9	28	5.7	–	–
Alaska	8	15.6	18	35.5	23	44.6	2	4.3	–	–
Arizona	111	21.3	187	35.9	199	38.3	24	4.6	–	–
Arkansas	56	16.7	105	31.4	150	44.9	23	6.9	–	–
California	377	20.1	865	46.1	603	32.1	29	1.5	2	0.1
Colorado	47	19.6	77	32.4	97	40.9	17	7.2	–	–
Connecticut	28	13.7	60	29.7	94	46.6	20	10.0	–	–
Delaware	10	18.7	18	32.8	24	42.3	3	6.2	–	–
District of Columbia	12	14.4	28	32.7	38	45.3	6	7.3	0	0.3
Florida	181	15.4	352	29.9	463	39.4	180	15.3	–	–
Georgia	134	16.3	287	34.9	345	41.9	57	6.9	–	–
Guam	6	23.2	11	42.8	7	28.1	1	5.8	–	–
Hawaii	14	14.1	28	28.5	40	41.9	15	15.5	–	–
Idaho	19	21.5	27	31.2	36	41.8	5	5.5	–	–
Illinois	184	17.0	345	32.0	464	43.0	86	8.0	0	0.0
Indiana	97	18.6	163	31.5	228	43.9	31	6.0	–	–
Iowa	31	17.6	52	29.9	81	46.3	11	6.2	–	–
Kansas	28	17.1	50	30.5	75	45.5	11	6.9	–	–
Kentucky	80	14.9	155	28.7	261	48.3	44	8.2	–	–
Louisiana	118	17.1	237	34.3	297	42.9	40	5.8	–	–
Maine	16	11.7	34	24.9	69	50.8	17	12.5	–	–
Maryland	40	14.9	89	32.7	119	44.1	22	8.3	–	–
Massachusetts	52	14.9	127	36.5	143	41.2	26	7.5	–	–
Michigan	137	14.4	313	33.0	434	45.8	64	6.8	–	–
Minnesota	37	15.8	78	33.6	98	42.3	19	8.3	–	–
Mississippi	65	17.2	136	35.8	148	39.1	30	7.9	–	–
Missouri	106	17.2	186	30.3	280	45.6	42	6.9	–	–
Montana	14	17.9	23	29.0	37	46.9	5	6.1	0	0.1
Nebraska	21	18.5	37	32.2	50	43.2	7	6.1	–	–
Nevada	23	19.2	37	31.2	46	38.5	13	11.1	–	–
New Hampshire	8	15.0	17	32.5	23	44.7	4	7.8	–	–
New Jersey	57	15.5	120	32.7	143	39.2	46	12.6	–	–
New Mexico	44	19.9	75	33.8	89	40.2	14	6.1	–	–
New York	207	13.4	434	28.0	656	42.3	252	16.2	–	–
North Carolina	129	17.2	257	34.2	300	39.9	65	8.7	–	–
North Dakota	6	15.3	12	29.9	19	45.6	4	9.2	–	–
Ohio	153	16.2	313	33.2	405	42.9	73	7.7	–	–
Oklahoma	66	17.1	115	30.0	173	45.3	29	7.6	–	–
Oregon	63	14.9	123	29.2	203	48.3	32	7.6	–	–
Pennsylvania	134	13.7	314	32.1	436	44.7	92	9.5	–	–
Rhode Island	13	16.7	27	35.1	30	39.7	6	8.4	–	–
South Carolina	80	15.9	171	34.0	216	43.1	35	7.0	–	–
South Dakota	10	18.0	19	34.3	22	40.9	4	6.8	–	–
Tennessee	125	16.3	219	28.5	347	45.2	76	9.9	–	–
Texas	465	20.8	791	35.4	808	36.1	173	7.7	–	–
Utah	26	21.1	41	32.4	52	41.7	6	4.7	0	0.0
Vermont	6	13.4	10	25.2	20	47.3	6	14.1	–	–
Virgin Islands	3	18.0	6	42.3	5	32.8	1	6.9	–	–
Virginia	72	16.1	145	32.4	183	40.9	48	10.6	–	–
Washington	67	15.2	126	28.8	211	48.1	34	7.8	0	0.0
West Virginia	35	13.5	75	29.1	127	49.7	20	7.7	0	0.0
Wisconsin	64	19.6	113	34.7	129	39.8	19	5.9	–	–
Wyoming	6	20.3	9	32.2	12	42.8	1	4.7	–	–

^a Due to rounding, the sum of individual categories may not match the table total.

– No sample data in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-12. Distribution of Participants by Citizenship Status and by State

State	All Participants		U. S. Born Citizen		Naturalized Citizen		Refugee		Other Noncitizen		Unknown	
	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	23,486	100.0	21,954	100.0	608	100.0	216	100.0	693	100.0	15	100.0
Alabama	489	2.1	488	2.2	0	0.1	0	0.1	0	0.1	-	-
Alaska	52	0.2	49	0.2	1	0.1	-	-	2	0.2	-	-
Arizona	521	2.2	485	2.2	8	1.3	3	1.4	25	3.6	-	-
Arkansas	334	1.4	329	1.5	2	0.3	-	-	2	0.3	1	9.5
California	1,876	8.0	1,640	7.5	82	13.5	39	17.9	111	16.0	5	32.9
Colorado	238	1.0	226	1.0	3	0.6	3	1.5	5	0.8	0	0.7
Connecticut	201	0.9	188	0.9	6	0.9	1	0.7	6	0.9	0	2.9
Delaware	56	0.2	54	0.2	0	0.1	0	0.1	1	0.1	0	0.2
District of Columbia	85	0.4	82	0.4	3	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.1	0	0.4
Florida	1,177	5.0	966	4.4	87	14.4	38	17.8	85	12.3	-	-
Georgia	823	3.5	809	3.7	7	1.2	1	0.5	6	0.9	-	-
Guam	25	0.1	24	0.1	1	0.2	0	0.0	1	0.1	0	0.3
Hawaii	97	0.4	84	0.4	8	1.4	0	0.1	4	0.6	-	-
Idaho	87	0.4	85	0.4	0	0.0	0	0.1	2	0.2	-	-
Illinois	1,080	4.6	1,022	4.7	29	4.8	3	1.6	23	3.3	3	20.3
Indiana	519	2.2	516	2.4	2	0.3	0	0.1	1	0.1	-	-
Iowa	176	0.7	171	0.8	1	0.2	1	0.6	2	0.3	-	-
Kansas	164	0.7	160	0.7	2	0.3	0	0.1	2	0.3	-	-
Kentucky	540	2.3	538	2.5	-	-	2	0.7	1	0.1	-	-
Louisiana	692	2.9	688	3.1	2	0.3	0	0.1	2	0.2	-	-
Maine	137	0.6	132	0.6	1	0.1	3	1.2	1	0.1	-	-
Maryland	271	1.2	251	1.1	12	2.0	2	1.1	5	0.7	1	4.3
Massachusetts	348	1.5	307	1.4	14	2.3	5	2.1	22	3.2	0	3.2
Michigan	947	4.0	913	4.2	15	2.4	4	2.0	15	2.2	-	-
Minnesota	232	1.0	206	0.9	9	1.4	12	5.6	6	0.8	-	-
Mississippi	378	1.6	377	1.7	1	0.2	-	-	0	0.0	-	-
Missouri	614	2.6	602	2.7	4	0.6	5	2.2	4	0.5	-	-
Montana	79	0.3	77	0.4	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1	-	-
Nebraska	115	0.5	110	0.5	1	0.2	2	1.0	2	0.3	0	0.4
Nevada	118	0.5	109	0.5	3	0.6	1	0.3	5	0.7	-	-
New Hampshire	51	0.2	49	0.2	0	0.1	2	0.7	0	0.1	-	-
New Jersey	365	1.6	318	1.5	22	3.6	4	2.0	20	2.9	-	-
New Mexico	222	0.9	209	1.0	3	0.5	0	0.1	9	1.3	-	-
New York	1,549	6.6	1,247	5.7	154	25.2	13	6.1	135	19.5	1	5.0
North Carolina	751	3.2	735	3.3	5	0.8	8	3.7	4	0.5	-	-
North Dakota	41	0.2	40	0.2	0	0.0	1	0.5	0	0.0	-	-
Ohio	944	4.0	911	4.1	9	1.4	12	5.5	10	1.4	2	15.2
Oklahoma	382	1.6	376	1.7	2	0.4	1	0.3	3	0.4	-	-
Oregon	421	1.8	397	1.8	6	1.0	7	3.3	10	1.5	-	-
Pennsylvania	976	4.2	936	4.3	21	3.4	4	2.0	15	2.1	0	2.8
Rhode Island	77	0.3	68	0.3	2	0.3	-	-	7	1.0	-	-
South Carolina	501	2.1	497	2.3	1	0.2	-	-	3	0.4	-	-
South Dakota	55	0.2	54	0.2	0	0.0	0	0.1	0	0.0	-	-
Tennessee	767	3.3	758	3.5	4	0.6	0	0.2	4	0.6	-	-
Texas	2,237	9.5	2,074	9.4	46	7.6	12	5.7	104	15.0	-	-
Utah	125	0.5	120	0.5	2	0.3	1	0.5	3	0.4	0	0.4
Vermont	41	0.2	41	0.2	1	0.1	-	-	0	0.0	-	-
Virgin Islands	14	0.1	12	0.1	1	0.2	-	-	1	0.1	0	0.3
Virginia	448	1.9	432	2.0	8	1.3	4	1.7	4	0.6	-	-
Washington	439	1.9	393	1.8	13	2.2	18	8.5	13	1.9	0	1.2
West Virginia	256	1.1	256	1.2	0	0.1	-	-	0	0.0	-	-
Wisconsin	325	1.4	317	1.4	2	0.4	-	-	6	0.9	-	-
Wyoming	27	0.1	27	0.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	-	-

- No sample data in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table B-13. Distribution of Noncitizen^a Participants by Age and by State

State	Total	Children		Nonelderly Adult		Elderly Adult	
		Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent	Number (000)	Percent
Total	909	177	19.5	501	55.2	231	25.4
Alabama	1	–	–	1	100.0	–	–
Alaska	2	0	22.6	1	70.6	0	6.9
Arizona	28	4	13.3	20	70.5	5	16.3
Arkansas	2	1	32.1	1	54.4	0	13.6
California	149	34	22.5	105	70.5	10	7.0
Colorado	9	3	29.8	4	47.6	2	22.6
Connecticut	8	1	15.4	4	55.1	2	29.5
Delaware	1	0	30.0	0	43.3	0	26.6
District of Columbia	0	–	–	0	51.2	0	48.8
Florida	124	18	14.7	63	50.6	43	34.7
Georgia	7	1	15.1	4	50.0	2	34.9
Guam	1	0	11.9	0	56.4	0	31.7
Hawaii	5	0	9.0	2	40.9	2	50.0
Idaho	2	1	35.4	1	53.8	0	10.8
Illinois	26	4	16.9	13	48.5	9	34.6
Indiana	1	–	–	1	58.8	0	41.2
Iowa	3	1	25.0	2	59.8	0	15.2
Kansas	2	0	19.3	1	49.3	1	31.4
Kentucky	2	1	28.9	1	50.0	0	21.1
Louisiana	2	0	12.8	1	49.2	1	37.9
Maine	4	1	41.7	2	43.5	1	14.8
Maryland	7	2	27.9	3	40.1	2	32.0
Massachusetts	27	7	25.4	14	53.2	6	21.4
Michigan	19	1	4.6	10	50.8	9	44.6
Minnesota	18	5	30.7	9	48.2	4	21.0
Mississippi	0	–	–	0	100.0	–	–
Missouri	8	1	16.2	5	56.5	2	27.2
Montana	1	0	18.2	0	72.9	0	8.9
Nebraska	4	1	36.1	2	52.9	0	11.0
Nevada	5	1	13.0	3	55.0	2	32.1
New Hampshire	2	1	47.9	1	44.1	0	8.1
New Jersey	25	3	14.1	11	43.7	10	42.3
New Mexico	9	1	15.4	6	65.1	2	19.4
New York	148	22	14.9	73	49.3	53	35.8
North Carolina	12	4	35.4	6	54.8	1	9.8
North Dakota	1	1	46.3	1	44.4	0	9.3
Ohio	22	11	49.7	8	36.2	3	14.1
Oklahoma	4	1	19.0	3	73.5	0	7.5
Oregon	18	4	21.9	11	60.1	3	18.1
Pennsylvania	19	4	19.6	10	52.1	5	28.2
Rhode Island	7	1	12.4	5	73.3	1	14.3
South Carolina	3	2	61.8	1	31.1	0	7.1
South Dakota	0	0	28.2	0	57.8	0	14.0
Tennessee	5	0	8.3	3	57.6	2	34.1
Texas	117	16	13.5	67	57.8	33	28.7
Utah	4	1	22.1	2	58.8	1	19.1
Vermont	0	–	–	0	66.6	0	33.4
Virgin Islands	1	0	22.0	0	43.4	0	34.6
Virginia	8	2	26.4	3	42.7	2	30.9
Washington	32	12	38.2	14	43.3	6	18.5
West Virginia	0	–	–	0	100.0	–	–
Wisconsin	6	2	26.6	4	64.8	1	8.5
Wyoming	0	–	–	0	47.0	0	53.0

^a Because of an administrative change in how citizenship data were collected in the FSPQC, individuals in citizenship subcategories (such as permanent resident aliens and refugees) cannot be identified reliably at the state level. State citizenship tables in this report contain information only for citizens and noncitizens and therefore are not directly comparable with tables in *Characteristics of Food Stamp Households* reports prior to the Fiscal Year 1999 edition.

– No sample data in this category.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

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APPENDIX C

FISCAL YEAR 2004 FSP PARAMETERS AND MAXIMUM BENEFIT AMOUNTS

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Table C-1. Fiscal Year 2003 HHS Poverty Income Guidelines^a

Household Size	Continental United States, Guam, and the Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$8,980	\$11,210	\$10,330
2	12,120	15,140	13,940
3	15,260	19,070	17,550
4	18,400	23,000	21,160
5	21,540	26,930	24,770
6	24,680	30,860	28,380
7	27,820	34,790	31,990
8	30,960	38,720	35,600
Each Additional Member	+3,140	+3,930	+3,610

^aThese numbers, upon which the fiscal year 2004 FSP gross and net monthly income eligibility standards are based, were issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Bureau of the Census establishes different poverty thresholds which are used primarily for statistical purposes.

Source: 68 *Federal Register* 26, February 7, 2003.

Table C-2. FSP Maximum Allowable Gross Monthly Income Eligibility Standards in Fiscal Year 2004

Household Size	Continental United States, Guam, and the Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$973	\$1,215	\$1,120
2	1,313	1,641	1,511
3	1,654	2,066	1,902
4	1,994	2,492	2,293
5	2,334	2,918	2,684
6	2,674	3,344	3,075
7	3,014	3,769	3,466
8	3,354	4,195	3,857
Each Additional Member	+341	+426	+392

^aThe fiscal year 2004 FSP gross monthly income limits are based on the 2003 poverty guidelines issued by HHS. (See Table C-1.) FNS derived the fiscal year 2004 gross income limits by multiplying the 2003 poverty guidelines by 130 percent, dividing the results by 12 and then rounding up to the nearest dollar. The 2003 poverty guidelines were developed on the basis of the 2002 Census poverty thresholds, so the gross income limits applied to food stamp households in fiscal year 2004 are based on 2002 poverty measures.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Table C-3. FSP Maximum Allowable Net Monthly Income Eligibility Standards in Fiscal Year 2004

Household Size	Continental United States, Guam, and the Virgin Islands	Alaska	Hawaii
1	\$749	\$935	\$861
2	1,010	1,262	1,162
3	1,272	1,590	1,463
4	1,534	1,917	1,764
5	1,795	2,245	2,065
6	2,057	2,572	2,365
7	2,319	2,900	2,666
8	2,580	3,227	2,967
Each Additional Member	+262	+328	+301

^aThe fiscal year 2004 FSP net monthly income limits are based on the 2003 poverty guidelines issued by HHS. (See Table C-1.) FNS derived the fiscal year 2004 net income limits by dividing the 2003 poverty guidelines by 12 and rounding up to the nearest dollar. The 2003 poverty guidelines were developed on the basis of the 2002 Census poverty thresholds, so the net income limits applied to food stamp households in fiscal year 2004 are based on 2002 poverty measures.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Table C-4. Value of Standard, Maximum Dependent-Care, and Excess Shelter Expense Deductions in the Continental United States and Outlying Areas in Fiscal Year 2004

Deduction	Continental U.S.	Alaska	Hawaii	Guam	Virgin Islands
Standard Deduction					
1-3 people	\$134	\$229	\$189	\$269	\$118
4 people	134	229	189	269	127
5 people	149	229	189	298	149
6 or more people	171	229	197	342	171
Maximum Excess Shelter Expense Deduction	378	604	509	444	298

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Homeless Household Shelter Estimate is \$143.

The Maximum Dependent Care Deduction is \$200 for each dependent under age 2 and \$175 for each dependent age 2 or older.

Note: The benefit calculation procedures of certain state-specific programs do not apply all the deductions that are used in the federal FSP. The Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) only uses the earnings deduction. SSI Combined Application Projects (SSI-CAP) in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas do not use any deductions. Washington's SSI Combined Application Project only uses the standard deduction and the excess shelter deduction.

Table C-5. Value of Maximum Food Stamp Benefit in the Continental United States and Outlying Areas in Fiscal Year 2004^b

Household Size	Continental U.S.	Alaska Urban	Alaska Rural I	Alaska Rural II	Hawaii	Guam	Virgin Islands
1	\$141	\$167	\$213	\$259	\$210	\$208	\$182
2	259	307	391	476	386	382	333
3	371	439	560	682	553	547	477
4	471	558	712	866	702	695	606
5	560	663	845	1,029	834	826	720
6	672	795	1,014	1,234	1,001	991	864
7	743	879	1,121	1,364	1,106	1,095	955
8	849	1,005	1,281	1,559	1,264	1,252	1,092
Each Additional Member	+106	+126	+160	+195	+158	+157	+137

^a The maximum benefit values are effective from October 1, 2003 to September 30, 2004 and are based on 100 percent of the cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in the preceding June for a reference family of four, rounded to the lowest dollar increment.

^b Due to the unusual nature of Alaskan terrain and climate, areas outside major urban centers are less accessible to food distributors. Therefore the value of the maximum benefit is adjusted to account for differences in the estimated cost of the Thrifty Food Plan in various regions. All regions of the state are classified as Rural I, Rural II, or Urban for this purpose.

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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APPENDIX D

SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

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SOURCE AND RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

The estimates in this report are derived from a sample of households selected for review as part of the FSP Quality Control System, an ongoing review of food stamp household circumstances. The Quality Control System is designed to determine (1) if households are eligible to participate and are receiving the correct benefit amount or (2) if household participation is correctly denied or terminated. The Quality Control System is based on a national sample of approximately 57,000 participating food stamp households and a somewhat smaller number of denials and terminations. The sample is stratified by month and by the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. Annual required state samples range from a minimum of 300 to 2,400 reviews, depending on the size of the state's caseload. State agencies select an independent sample each month that is generally proportional to the size of the monthly participating caseload.

Target Universe

The target universe of this study included all participating households (active cases) subject to quality control review in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.¹

While almost all participating food stamp households are included in the target universe, certain types of households not subject to review are not included. Specifically, the universe includes all households receiving food stamps during the review period except those in which the participants (1) died or moved outside the state; (2) received benefits through a disaster certification authorized by FNS; (3) were under investigation for FSP fraud (including those with pending fraud hearings) and/or were appealing a notice of adverse action; or (4) received restored benefits in accordance with the state manual, but were otherwise ineligible. The sampling unit within the universe each month is the active food stamp household as specified in FNS regulations.

Data Editing

The estimates presented in this report are derived from the fiscal year 2004 FSPQC datafile, an edited version of the raw datafile generated by the Quality Control System. The raw fiscal year 2004 data are made up of monthly samples from October 2003 through September 2004.

Households that have an incomplete Quality Control review or that were found to be ineligible were dropped from the edited datafile. Of the 57,350 sample cases on the raw datafile, 3,162 were determined to not be subject to review. Two were dropped to correct for oversampling and one was dropped due to an out-of-range interview date (Table D-1). Of those cases subject to review, 4,109 were not completed because the household failed to cooperate, could not be located, or all members had died or moved. An additional 1,031 households were found to be

¹ Participating households in Guam and the Virgin Islands have been included in the target universe since fiscal year 1993. Prior to that year the universe excluded households in those areas.

ineligible for a positive benefit. These 1,031 households were dropped from the datafile because data on their characteristics are not collected.

Failure to complete reviews for all cases subject to review can bias the sample results if the characteristics of unreviewed households are significantly different from those of reviewed households. While there are no direct measures of such differences, the ratio of completed reviews to total cases subject to review provides an indication of the magnitude of any potential bias. For fiscal year 2004, the completion rate is 92 percent.

Consistent measures of unit size, income, and benefit level are very important to any analysis of food stamp households. However, data for these measures are inconsistent for a number of records on the raw datafile. These inconsistencies can be rooted in the initial case record information, the transcription and data entry process, or the extraction of the food stamp information for the selected months. The raw data is edited to correct such inconsistencies and to insure that certain basic relationships between variables hold for almost all cases. For instance, except for households participating in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or in an SSI Combined Application Project (SSI-CAP) in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, or Texas, a household's net countable income always equals the household's gross countable income minus the total deductions for which the household is eligible, and the food stamp benefit level always equals the household's maximum benefit minus 30 percent of the household's net countable income. Households participating in MFIP or SSI-CAP are subject to different eligibility and benefit determination rules and have been edited accordingly. Households for which the editing process was unable to resolve inconsistencies, a total of 239, were dropped from the file.

Weighting

The estimates for fiscal year 2004 in this report are based on a sample of 48,806 valid observations. The sample records have been weighted to replicate the monthly number of FSP units by state, as reflected in the FSP Program Operations data adjusted to eliminate those receiving disaster assistance benefits and those receiving benefits in error. A separate person-level weight was not created, however.

Comparison to Participation Data

Table D-2 compares the quality control sample-based estimates to aggregate program participation data for fiscal year 2004.² Table D-3 compares the reported and calculated values for selected variables for fiscal year 2004.

² The Program Data are adjusted downward before the FSPQC sample is weighted to account for households receiving benefits in error or disaster assistance. These households are not represented in the FSPQC sample because data is not collected for them. The adjusted total of 10,070,318 households is about two percent lower than Program Data figures. Although the FSPQC sample data are not weighted at the person-level, the sample number of participants should also be expected to be lower than the Program Data.

Table D-1. Number of Cases Sampled, Dropped From the Edited File, and Included on the Edited File, Fiscal Year 2004

	Fiscal Year 2004 QC Sample
Number of cases sampled	57,350
Cases not subject to review	3,162
Cases deselected to correct for oversampling	2
Case dropped due to date out of range (FY2005)	1
Cases subject to review	54,185
Incomplete cases	4,109
Cases completed	50,076
Households not eligible for a positive benefit	1,031
Households eligible for a positive benefit	49,045
Households dropped due to inconsistencies	239
Households on the final file	48,806

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table D-2. Comparison of Program Data to Edited FSPQC Datafile, Fiscal Year 2004

Average Monthly Value	Fiscal Year 2004		
	Program Data	Adjusted Program Data	Edited FSPQC Datafile
Number of households	10,278,250	10,070,318	10,070,318
Number of participants	23,854,049	23,355,462	23,485,535
Value of benefits	\$2,059,320,552	1,987,747,398	\$1,978,371,466
Average household size	2.32	2.32	2.35
Average benefit per person	\$86.03	85.11	\$84.24

Sources: Fiscal Year 2004 Program Data and FSPQC datafile.

NA: Not available

Table D-3. Comparison of Calculated and Reported Values for Selected Variables of Participating Households, Fiscal Year 2004

Variable	All Households	Households With:			
		Earned Income	Elderly Individuals	Children	Disabled Nonelderly Adults
Average Gross Income (Dollars)					
Calculated	643	1,011	682	766	792
Reported.....	653	1,025	691	776	810
Average Net Income (Dollars) ^a					
Calculated	321	519	352	403	444
Reported.....	318	515	349	399	438
Average Total Deduction (Dollars) ^b					
Calculated	381	517	360	417	369
Reported.....	391	530	369	430	377
Average Food Stamp Benefit (Dollars)					
Calculated	196	230	84	280	136
Reported ^c	197	231	85	280	136
Percent With Zero Gross Income					
Calculated	13.0	0.0	1.9	9.0	0.1
Reported.....	13.5	0.2	2.4	9.6	0.5
Percent With Zero Net Income					
Calculated	29.4	16.0	10.0	26.9	8.0
Reported.....	31.0	16.2	13.2	27.6	10.1
Percent With Minimum Benefit					
Calculated	6.1	3.8	17.4	1.3	10.2
Reported.....	5.6	3.1	16.4	1.1	9.4

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 FSPQC datafile.

^aBecause net income is not used in their benefit determination, 37,608 households participating in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) and 272,701 households participating in an SSI Combined Application Project (SSI-CAP) in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, or Texas are excluded from this comparison.

^bBecause deductions are not used in their benefit determination, 272,701 SSI-CAP households in Mississippi, New York, South Carolina, and Texas are excluded from this comparison.

^cReported benefit adjusted for reported overissuance errors, underissuance errors, and prorated benefits.

APPENDIX E
SAMPLING ERROR OF ESTIMATES

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SAMPLING ERROR OF ESTIMATES

The estimates of the characteristics of food stamp households in this report are based on a sample of households and, consequently, are subject to statistical sampling error. One indicator of the magnitude of the sampling error associated with a given estimate is its standard error. Standard errors measure the variation in estimated values that would be observed if multiple replications of the sample were drawn. The magnitude of the standard errors depends on: (1) the degree of variation in the variable within the population from which the sample is drawn; (2) the design of the sample, including such issues as stratification and sampling probabilities; and (3) the size of the sample on which the estimate is based. This appendix presents estimates of the standard errors associated with key statistics and outlines methods for estimating the standard errors of other statistics for which standard errors have not been directly calculated.

Standard Errors

The standard error of an estimated proportion of households, s_p , based on a simple random sample is:

$$(1) \quad s_p = \sqrt{[p(1-p)(N-n)] / [(n-1)N]}$$

where p is the weighted estimate of the proportion, N is the number of households in the population, and n is the sample size.¹ The standard error of an estimated number of households, s_N , based on a simple random sample is:

$$(2) \quad s_N = NS_p$$

These formulas for the standard errors of estimates based on a simple random sample do not necessarily apply to estimates derived from more complex samples, such as the stratified sample of the FSPQC. In this appendix, standard errors calculated using equations (1) and (2) are referred to as “naive standard errors.” Standard errors can be estimated more accurately using Taylor series linearization.

¹ More precisely, n is the sample size corresponding to the population that forms the denominator or “base” of the proportion being estimated. When the base is all food stamp households in fiscal year 2004, $n = 48,806$. Sample sizes for selected demographic subgroups for fiscal year 2004 are shown in the sample size column of Table E-1. For subgroups not shown in Table E-1, the sample size can be approximated by multiplying the total sample size (48,806) by the ratio of the subgroup population size to the total population size (N). For fiscal year 2004, $N = 10,070$ thousand and there are 1,741 thousand elderly households. Hence the approximate sample size for elderly households in fiscal year 2004 would be calculated as $(1,741 / 10,070) \times (48,806) = 8,438$. In this case the approximation can be compared to the true elderly sample size of 8,176, as shown in Table E-1.

The following discussion presents standard errors of selected estimates that were computed using the Taylor series method. It then presents a simple method for approximating standard errors of estimates for which individual standard errors have not been computed.

Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers of Households

The standard errors of selected estimates of food stamp households in fiscal year 2004 are shown in Table E-1. These standard errors can be used to compute confidence intervals for the estimated number of households with a particular characteristic.² For example, the estimated number of food stamp households that receive the minimum benefit is 611,000 (Table A-1), and the corresponding standard error is 13,650 (Table E-1). Therefore, the 95 percent confidence interval extends from 583,700 to 638,300.³

For standard errors not shown in Table E-1, the approximate standard error, S_E , of an estimated number of households for fiscal year 2004 can be calculated using equation (3):

$$(3) \quad S_E = S_N \times d$$

where S_N is the naive standard error from equation (2) above, and d is the square root of the design effect for the population subgroup and characteristic of interest, from Table E-2. The design effect reflects the loss of precision due to the different sampling rates in different strata of the FSPQC sample. It is the ratio of the variance computed by the Taylor series method (Table E-1) to the naive variance.⁴ When the population subgroup (for example, households with elderly) is listed in Table E-2, but the characteristic of interest (for example, zero net income) is not, use the average square root of the design effect for the subgroup, from the rightmost column of Table E-2. When neither the subgroup nor the characteristic is listed, use the average square root of the design effect for all FSP households, 1.64.

For example, to estimate the standard error of the number of households containing an elderly person with zero net income, the first step is to obtain the size of the estimate. As shown in appendix Table A-17, 174,000 elderly households have zero net income. The next step is to

² A confidence interval is a range of values that will contain the true value of an estimated characteristic with a known probability. For instance, a 95 percent confidence interval extends approximately two standard errors above and below the estimated value for a characteristic, and 95 percent of all confidence intervals will contain the true value.

³ Calculated as: $(611 - (2 \times 13.65)) = 583.70$ and $(611 + (2 \times 13.65)) = 638.30$.

⁴ The variance and naive variance are the standard error and naive standard error squared, respectively.

calculate the naive standard error. Using equation (2), the value is 5,762.⁵ Multiplying 5,762 by the square root of the design effect (d), 2.24, from Table E-2 yields an estimated standard error of 12,907 (compared with the Taylor series standard error from Table E-1, 8,630).

Standard Errors of Estimated Percentages

Comparing equations (1) and (2), it is apparent that the standard error of an estimated percentage of households, s_p , is equal to the standard error of the corresponding count of households, s_N , divided by the number of households in the population that forms the base of the percentage. That is:

$$(4) \quad S_p = S_N / N$$

For example, appendix Table A-17 shows that, of the 5.5 million households with children, 495 thousand (9.0 percent) have no gross income. The standard error (S_N) of the number of households with children with no gross income is 12,520 (Table E-1). To calculate S_p the standard error of the corresponding percentage estimate, simply divide S_N by the number of households in the population that forms the base of the percentage—in this case, 5.5 million households with children. The resulting standard error of the percentage estimate is 0.2 percentage points, and the corresponding 95 percent confidence interval extends from 8.6 to 9.4 percent, around the point estimate of 9.0 percent.

Equation (4) can also be applied to standard errors that are not shown in Table E-1. First, calculate the adjusted naive standard error of the number of households using equation (3). Then divide the resulting standard error by the size of the population that forms the base of the percentage. Returning to an earlier example—of the 1.7 million households with elderly individuals, 174 thousand (10.0 percent) have zero net income. Dividing the adjusted naive standard error (calculated above as 12,907) by 1.7 million yields an adjusted naive standard error of the percentage estimate of 0.8 percentage points.

Standard Errors of Estimated Means

The standard errors for selected estimated means for fiscal year 2004 are provided in Table E-3. For example, the standard error of the mean gross income for all food stamp households in fiscal year 2004 is \$2.82 (Table E-3), and the mean itself is \$643 (Table A-20). Therefore, a 95 percent confidence interval extends from approximately \$637 to \$649.

Generalized approximation methods such as the one used in equation (3) work well for standard errors of estimated numbers and percentages, because the standard errors depend only on the

⁵ Calculated as:

$$1,741,000 \times \sqrt{[(174,000/1,741,000) \times (1 - (174,000/1,741,000))] \times (1,741,000 - 8,176) / [(8,176 - 1) \times 1,741,000]} = 5,762$$

where 1,741,000 is the estimated population of elderly households, 174,000 is the estimated population of elderly households with zero net income, 8,176 is the sample size of elderly households (Table E-1), and 5,762 is the standard error.

sample size, the estimated proportion, and the design effects. Generalized methods are less appropriate for standard errors of means because the standard error depends on the variance as well as the sample size and design effects. Nevertheless, a rough approximation of the magnitude of standard errors of means not included in Table E-3 can be obtained from Table E-4. Table E-4 shows for each variable in Table E-3 the average, minimum, and maximum value of that variable's standard error as a percentage of the variable's mean value. These three values are shown for all food stamp households and for selected subgroups. The standard errors in Table E-4 include design effects.

Table E-1. Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers of Food Stamp Households, Fiscal Year 2004

	Households (000) With:								Sample Size	Estimated Population (000)
	Zero Gross Income	Zero Net Income	Minimum Benefits	Earned Income	Elderly Individuals	Children	School Age Children	Disabled Nonelderly Individuals		
All FSP Households	19.39	27.28	13.65	26.93	22.25	28.53	29.16	24.04	48,806	10,070
With Elderly Individuals	3.82	8.63	9.48	5.54	22.25	6.36	6.13	4.46	8,176	1,741
Without Elderly Individuals	19.11	26.60	10.15	26.66	NA	28.66	29.09	23.84	40,630	8,329
With Children	12.52	21.11	5.37	25.52	6.36	28.53	29.16	16.17	26,270	5,472
With School Age Children	10.14	17.82	4.31	23.24	6.13	29.16	29.16	15.36	19,651	4,134
Without Children	15.79	21.41	12.64	12.39	21.59	NA	NA	20.04	22,536	4,598
With Earnings	NA	12.54	6.30	26.93	5.54	25.52	23.24	8.47	14,200	2,896
With Disabled Nonelderly Individuals	0.92	8.04	8.51	8.47	4.46	16.17	15.36	24.04	11,850	2,310

^aStandard errors were estimated using the Taylor Series method.

NA = not applicable.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table E-2. Square Root of Design Effects (d) for Standard Errors of Estimated Numbers or Percentages of Food Stamp Households, Fiscal Year 2004

Base of Estimated Number	Households With:								Average Square Root of Design Effect
	Zero Gross Income	Zero Net Income	Minimum Benefits	Earned Income	Elderly Individuals	Children	School Age Children	Disabled Nonelderly Individuals	
All FSP Households	1.60	1.73	1.57	1.70	1.67	1.58	1.69	1.57	1.64
With Elderly Individuals	2.09	2.24	1.69	1.89	NA	1.79	1.81	1.72	1.89
Without Elderly Individuals	1.65	1.86	1.69	1.86	NA	2.10	1.98	1.69	1.83
With Children	1.67	1.99	2.01	2.32	1.75	NA	4.04	1.73	2.22
With School Age Children	1.67	2.01	1.91	2.52	1.77	NA	NA	1.80	1.95
Without Children	1.82	2.24	1.64	1.77	2.17	NA	NA	1.99	1.94
With Earnings	NA	1.98	1.86	NA	1.93	8.05	3.93	1.64	3.23
With Disabled Nonelderly Individuals	2.10	1.94	1.76	1.76	1.86	2.48	2.36	NA	2.04

^aThe design effect is the ratio of the variance computed by the Taylor Series method to the naive variance for the specific cell of the table. The average square root of design effect for each row is a simple arithmetic average of the values for each cell in the row.

NA = not applicable.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table E-3. Standard Errors of Estimated Means, Fiscal Year 2004^a

Base of Estimated Mean	Households With:										
	Gross Income	Net Income	Benefits	All Deductions	Total Resources	Household Size	Certification Period	Earnings ^b	TANF ^b	SSI ^b	Shelter Deduction ^b
All FSP Households ..	2.82	2.23	0.85	1.52	6.96	0.01	0.04	5.86	3.65	2.99	1.14
With Elderly Individuals	3.76	4.11	1.20	3.77	27.59	0.01	0.16	32.71	18.49	5.27	3.56
Without Elderly Individuals	3.32	2.54	0.95	1.68	6.12	0.01	0.03	5.94	3.72	3.56	1.19
With Children	4.41	3.50	1.18	1.81	8.92	0.01	0.02	6.42	3.73	6.14	1.42
With School Age Children	5.19	4.22	1.44	2.11	4.12	0.01	0.03	7.59	4.80	6.75	1.68
Without Children .	2.75	2.08	0.54	2.60	10.96	0.00	0.08	9.38	14.74	3.32	1.93
With Earnings	5.90	4.98	1.61	2.37	16.48	0.02	0.03	5.86	8.38	9.01	1.79
With Disabled Nonelderly Individuals	4.15	4.53	1.52	4.43	5.98	0.02	0.10	17.39	7.09	3.59	2.89

^aStandard errors were estimated using the Taylor Series method.

^bFor households with a nonzero amount.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

Table E-4. Range of Standard Errors of Mean Amounts Expressed as a Percentage of the Mean Amount, Fiscal Year 2004^a

Number of Households in Base of Mean (Thousands)	Standard Error as Percent of Mean Amount		
	Average ^b	Lowest ^c	Highest ^d
10,070 (All FSP Households)	0.9	0.4	4.9
1,741 (Households With Elderly Individuals)	3.4	0.6	9.4
5,472 (Households With Children)	1.2	0.2	7.5
2,896 (Households With Earnings)	1.8	0.4	9.9
2,310 (Households With Disabled Nonelderly Individuals)	1.5	0.5	4.0

^aStandard errors from table E-3 and mean amounts from applicable text tables.

^bAverage standard error across all 11 variables in table E-3 expressed as a percentage of the mean amount.

^cLowest of the standard errors across all 11 variables in table E-3 expressed as a percentage of the mean amount.

^dHighest of the standard errors across all 11 variables in table E-3 expressed as a percentage of the mean amount.

Source: Fiscal Year 2004 Food Stamp Program Quality Control sample.

APPENDIX F
DATA COLLECTION INSTRUMENT

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Quality Control Review Schedule

PRIVACY ACT/PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0584-0299. The time required to complete this collection is estimated to average 1.05 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. This report is required under provisions of 7 CFR 275.14. This information is needed for the review of State performance in determining recipient eligibility. This information is used to determine State compliance, and failure to report may result in a finding of non-compliance.

Section 1 – Review Summary

1. QC Review Number	2. Case Number	3. State	4. Local Agency	5. Sample Month & Year	6. Stratum
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7. Disposition	8. Finding	9. FS Allotment Under Review	10. Error Amount	11. Case Classification	
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Section 2– Detailed Error Findings

	12. Element	13. Nature	14. Cause	15. Error Finding	16. Error Amount	17. Discovery	18. Verified	19. Occurrence	
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Section 3 – Household Characteristics

20. Most Recent Cert. Action

Month, Day, Year

21. Type of Action

22. Length of Cert. Period

of months

23. Allotment Adjustment

24. Amount of Allotment Adjustment

25. Number of Household Members

26. Receipt of Expedited Service

27. Authorized Representative Used at Application

28. Categorical Eligibility

29. Reporting Requirement

Resources:

30. Liquid

31. Property (excluding home)

32 a. Vehicle

32 b. Status 2nd Vehicle

33. Countable Vehicle Assets

34. Other Non-liquid

Income:

35. Gross

36. Net

Deductions:

37. Earned Income

38. Medical

39. Dependent Care

40. Child Support

41. Shelter

42. Homeless

Additional Information on Shelter Costs:

43. Rent/Mortgage

44. Use of SUA
a. Usage b. Proration

45. Utilities (SUA or Actual)

Section 4 – Information on Each Household Members

46. Person Number	47. FSP Participation	48. Relation Head of HH	49. Age	50. Sex	51. Race	52. Citizen Status	53. Edu. Level	54. Employment Status	54. Employment Hours	55. FSP Work Reg.	56. FSP E&T	57. ABAWD Status	58. Dependent Care Cost
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You may record information on up to 16 individuals using additional pages.

APPENDIX G

PREVIOUS REPORTS IN THIS SERIES

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Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, Fiscal Year 2003. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis, Nutrition and Evaluation; 2004.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, Fiscal Year 2002. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, Office of Analysis, Nutrition and Evaluation; 2003.

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